

# Lovelorn

STIRRING STORIES OF REAL ROMANCE

10¢

AND TO THINK I BELIEVED  
YOUR LIES...GAVE YOU MY  
LOVE! NOW IT'S UP TO THE  
BLACK LEOPARD...BECAUSE  
IF I CAN'T HAVE YOU,  
NOBODY CAN!

ALL-GLAMOR  
ISSUE!  
VOTE for YOUR LOVE  
COURAGEOUS HEART  
LOVE IS BLIND  
...and other  
FEATURES!







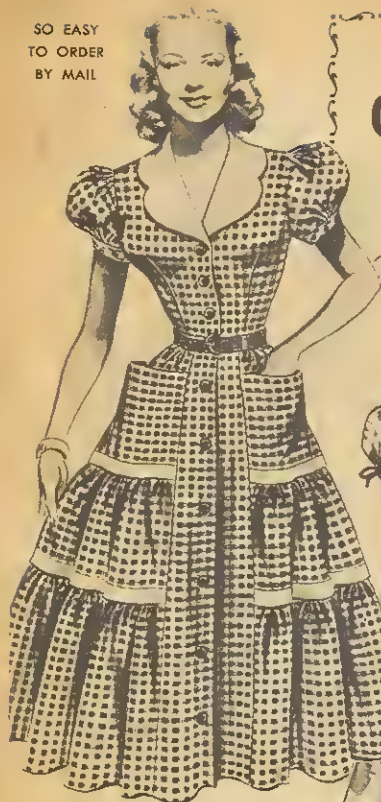
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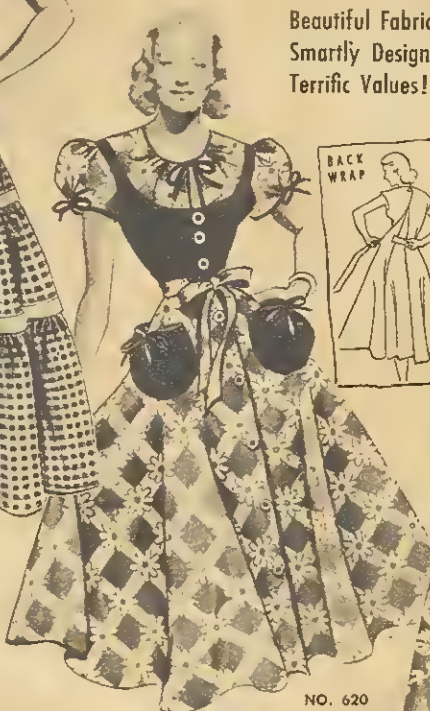


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Colors:

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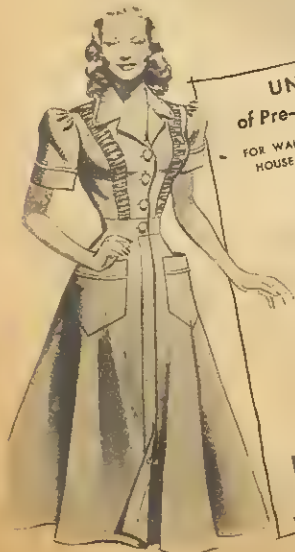


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# VOTE for Your LOVE!

I'M EILEEN MORRIS -- THE GIRL WHO THOUGHT SHE KNEW ALL THE ANSWERS! BUT WHEN IT CAME TO THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION OF ALL, I WAS OUT OF ANSWERS! WHICH WAY TO CAST MY **VOTE FOR LOVE?** SHOULD I CAST MY BALLOT ON THE TICKET OF **SECURITY**-- OR **ROMANCE?** YES, I WAS OUT TO ELECT A **HUSBAND**-- AND THE STORY OF MY CAMPAIGN IS THE TALE OF A WOMAN'S ANGUISHED HEART!

## BALLOT FOR BLISS

DANIEL HORTON

CONVENTION

JON BALDWIN

Rising young political star running on platform of **ROMANCE**.

Vote YES or NO in square at right.

Wealthy, sophisticated newspaper publisher who offers a life of paradise to his heart's choice.

Vote YES or NO in square at right.

HI THERE, BEAUTIFUL!

HEY, GORGEOUS! HOW ABOUT STEPPING OUT WITH ME TONIGHT?

WOO! WOO!

"Yes, the wolves were at it again--and I loved it! What a thrill to be a noted newspaperwoman at the DAILY METROPOLITAN--yet still young and beautiful enough for admiration! It helped still the loneliness, the desire for **REAL** romance, that dwelt deep within me..."

COME ON, EILEEN--WHEN ARE YOU GONNA WEAKEN AND FALL FOR ONE OF US?

FORGET IT, PAL! I'M MARRIED TO MY COLUMN--AND I HEAR IT CALLING ME!

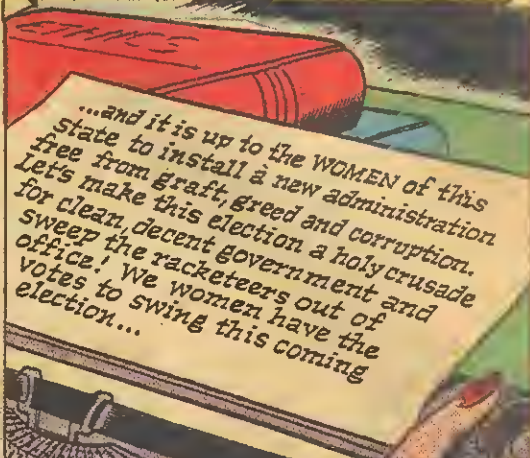
WOMAN'S PAGE  
EDITOR  
EILEEN MORRIS



GOSH, IT'S NOT EASY. PUTTING THEM OFF -- HOW I WANT A GUY OF MY OWN! BUT THAT'LL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL I'M A REAL SUCCESS! I -- I HOPE THESE **POLITICAL** COLUMNS I'M GOING TO LAUNCH WILL DO THE JOB!



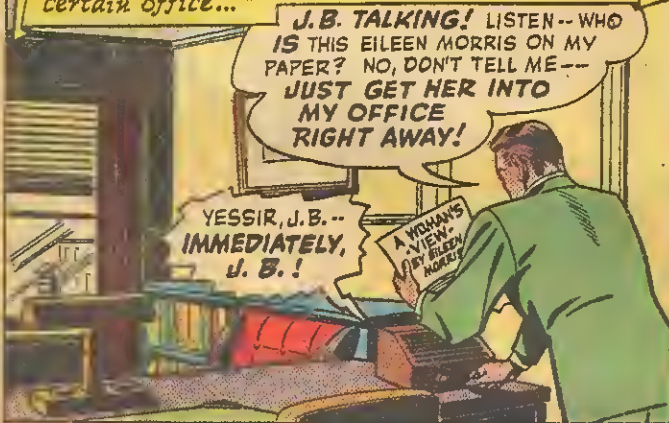
"Politics were a new field for me -- something I could tackle with all the fervor of a crusading heart!"



"I'd hoped my column would create a stir! But not even in my wildest dreams had I anticipated the disturbance it would arouse in a certain office..."

**J.B. TALKING!** LISTEN -- WHO IS THIS EILEEN MORRIS ON MY PAPER? NO, DON'T TELL ME -- JUST GET HER INTO MY OFFICE RIGHT AWAY!

YESSIR, J.B. -- IMMEDIATELY, J.B.!



"J.B. -- Jon Baldwin, the paper's publisher -- wanted to see ME! Always, that meant **DISMISSAL!** Fearfully, I entered the sacred portals..."

YOU S-SENT FOR ME, SIR?

ARE YOU EILEEN MORRIS? COME IN, MY DEAR -- COME IN! I WON'T BITE YOU -- AND DON'T CALL ME SIR!



"WAS **THIS** the man I had dreaded -- this handsome and polished person who strove to put me at ease -- who thrilled me with the tenderness of his glance?"

I SENT FOR YOU BECAUSE YOUR COLUMN WAS THE BEST THING WE'VE PUBLISHED IN YEARS -- AND I WANTED TO SEE WHAT YOU LOOKED LIKE! AND NOW THAT I **HAVE** SEEN, THERE'S MORE I'D LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT YOU -- SHALL WE SAY AT DINNER TONIGHT?

WHY, I'D BE -- DELIGHTED!



"That dinner date marked an epoch in my life -- and the dawning of an era of sheerest delight! For Jon sought my company constantly -- and brought to our meetings a charm and fascination I'd never before encountered in **ANY** man!"





"Then -- one starlit night..."

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOUR COLUMNS, EILEEN! I'VE LEARNED OF THE ENORMOUS FOLLOWING YOU HAVE AMONG WOMAN READERS AND YOUR SUPERB REPUTATION FOR HONESTY AND INTEGRITY -- BUT I THINK YOU'RE WASTING YOURSELF ON THE WOMAN'S PAGE! AS OF TONIGHT, I'M **DOUBLING YOUR SALARY** ---



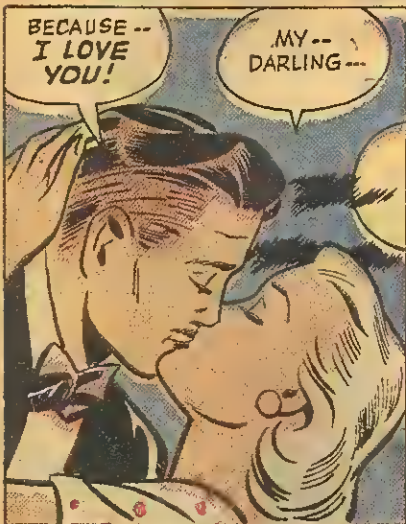
--- AND I'M MAKING YOU THE PAPER'S **ACE POLITICAL COLUMNIST!** YOU'LL COVER THE GUBERNATORIAL CONVENTION -- AND YOUR ARTICLES WILL HELP ASSURE THE ELECTION OF A DECENT ADMINISTRATION!

OH, JON -- IT SOUNDS **WONDERFUL!** BUT -- BUT WHY DO YOU HAVE SO MUCH FAITH IN ME?



BECAUSE -- I LOVE YOU!

MY -- DARLING ---



"What was this feeling, such as I had never experienced? What magic was it that set my heart racing to the feel of his lips and arms? I knew only one thing -- that I'd found the man of my dreams -- **JON BALDWIN!**"



I **KNOW** YOU'LL LIVE UP TO MY LOVE AND FAITH IN YOU, DEAREST! YOUNG DANIEL HORTON'S SURE TO BE NOMINATED! HE'LL MAKE AN HONEST AND FEARLESS GOVERNOR -- AND HE'LL BE ELECTED IF YOUR ARTICLES CAN SWING PUBLIC OPINION HIS WAY! AND AS SOON AS HE WINS OUT, OUR WORK FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT WILL BE FULFILLED -- **AND WE CAN BE MARRIED!**

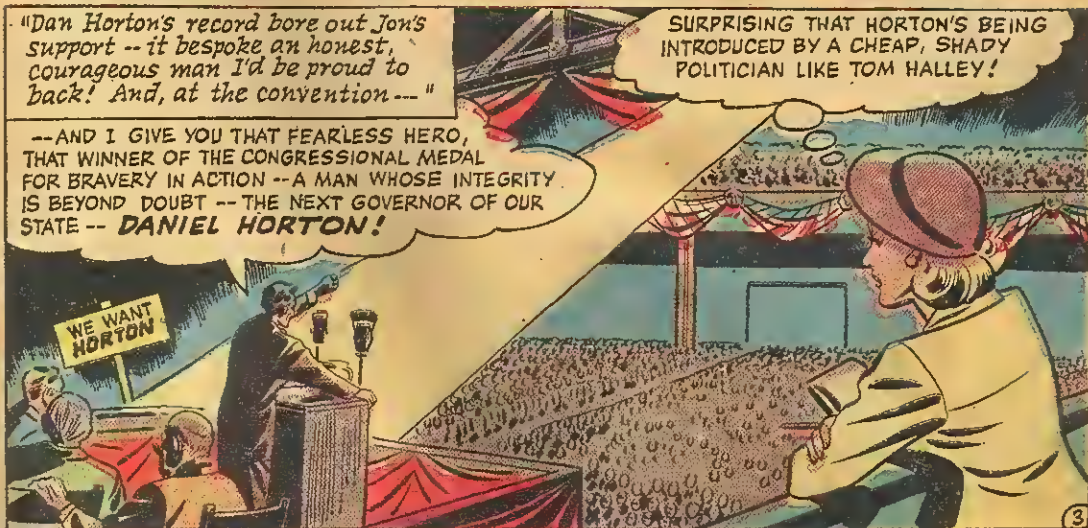
IF YOU SAY HE'S THE MAN -- THAT'S ALL I WANT TO **KNOW, DARLING!**



"Dan Horton's record bore out Jon's support -- it bespoke an honest, courageous man I'd be proud to back! And, at the convention ---"

-- AND I GIVE YOU THAT FEARLESS HERO, THAT WINNER OF THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL FOR BRAVERY IN ACTION -- A MAN WHOSE INTEGRITY IS BEYOND DOUBT -- THE NEXT GOVERNOR OF OUR STATE -- **DANIEL HORTON!**

SURPRISING THAT HORTON'S BEING INTRODUCED BY A CHEAP, SHADY POLITICIAN LIKE TOM HALLEY!





"Then, as if Horton's name was a cue for a wild demonstration..."

**WE WANT HORTON!  
WE WANT HORTON!**

THIS ISN'T  
SPONTANEOUS --  
IT LOOKS LIKE A  
SKILLFULLY PLANNED  
OUTBURST -- ORGANIZED  
AND FINANCED ON  
A BIG SCALE!

"But the demonstration  
turned the trick -- delegates  
didn't dare vote against a  
candidate with such  
support! And when Dan  
Horton appeared to accept  
the nomination --"

MY FRIENDS, I THANK  
YOU FOR YOUR HONOR  
AND TRUST -- **I WON'T  
LET YOU DOWN!**

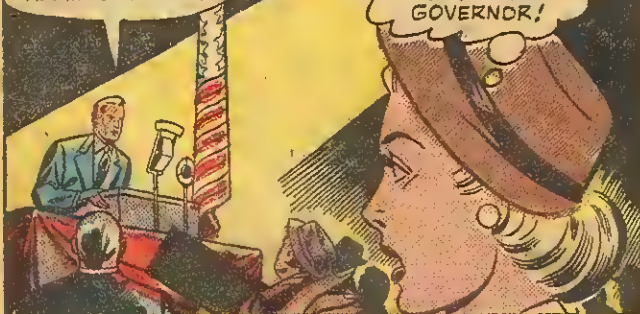


I'M AN AMATEUR IN POLITICS, AND THIS  
IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER RUN FOR  
OFFICE -- BUT I KNOW MY DUTY TO  
THE CAUSE OF DECENT GOVERNMENT!  
IF ELECTED, I PROMISE TO  
RESTORE HONESTY AND  
EFFICIENCY TO OUR  
ADMINISTRATION!

HE'S --  
**HANDSOME!**  
THERE'S COURAGE,  
FRANKNESS,  
STRENGTH IN HIS  
FACE! JON WAS RIGHT --  
HE SHOULD MAKE A  
**WONDERFUL  
GOVERNOR!**

"I couldn't forget his powerful  
speech -- and my enthusiasm  
poured into the most heartfelt  
column I'd ever written!"

"A NEW, GLORIOUS BATTLE-CRY OF  
DEMOCRACY RESOUNDED YESTERDAY --  
ONE DESTINED TO ECHO IN OUR HEARTS!  
IT WAS '**WE WANT HORTON!**' --  
A SLOGAN OF HONESTY AND STRENGTH  
THAT WILL RING THROUGH THE  
CORRIDORS OF HISTORY. FOR HERE  
IS A MAN WE CAN TRUST -- A MAN  
WE SHOULD **VOTE FOR!**"



"Next day --"

YOUR COLUMN WAS A  
**MASTERPIECE -- I KNEW  
I COULD DEPEND ON YOU!**  
YOU'LL COVER HORTON'S  
BARNSTORMING CAMPAIGN  
AROUND THE STATE -- **AND  
KEEP UP THE GOOD  
WORK!**

BUT JON --  
IT'LL MEAN BEING  
AWAY FROM YOU  
SO LONG!

I'LL MISS YOU TERRIBLY -- BUT  
WE MUSTN'T BE SELFISH! IT'S  
OUR DUTY TO GOOD GOVERNMENT --  
AND ONCE THE ELECTION'S OVER,  
WE'LL HAVE A LIFETIME  
TOGETHER!

OF COURSE!  
I -- MUSTN'T  
BE SELFISH!



"And so I joined the campaign  
train, drowning my loneliness  
for Jon in the thrill of close-  
ness to that rising young  
political star, Dan Horton!"

-- AND THIS IS THE REPORTER  
FROM THE DAILY METROPOLITAN,  
DAN, **MISS  
EILEEN  
MORRIS!**

YOU MEAN YOU'RE  
THE GIRL WHO GAVE  
ME THAT WONDERFUL  
WRITEUP? I NEVER  
SUSPECTED YOU'D BE  
SO -- SO **LOVELY!**





WHERE'S ALL THE MONEY COME FROM FOR THESE WELL-ORGANIZED RALLIES? DAN MAY BE A POOR POLITICAL AMATEUR — BUT RICH, EXPERIENCED POLITICIANS ARE BEHIND ALL THIS!

VOTE FOR DANIEL HORTON

HURRAY, HORTON!

CLEAN GOVERNMENT AT LAST!

DANIEL HORTON

THE ROAD TO PROGRESS

A man with reddish hair, seen from the back, sits at a table in a cafe. He is wearing a blue jacket. Across from him, a woman with blonde hair styled in waves is looking out a large window. She is wearing a brown jacket and has her hand near her face. On the table are two cups of coffee. Outside the window, there is a body of water and a small house with a yellow roof on the opposite shore. The scene is depicted in a classic comic book style with bold lines and a limited color palette.

--and although Dan Horton seems sincere, one wonders about the honesty of his monied backers. If the source of the huge sums being spent in his campaign is kept secret, perhaps it's because this source is a corrupt one!

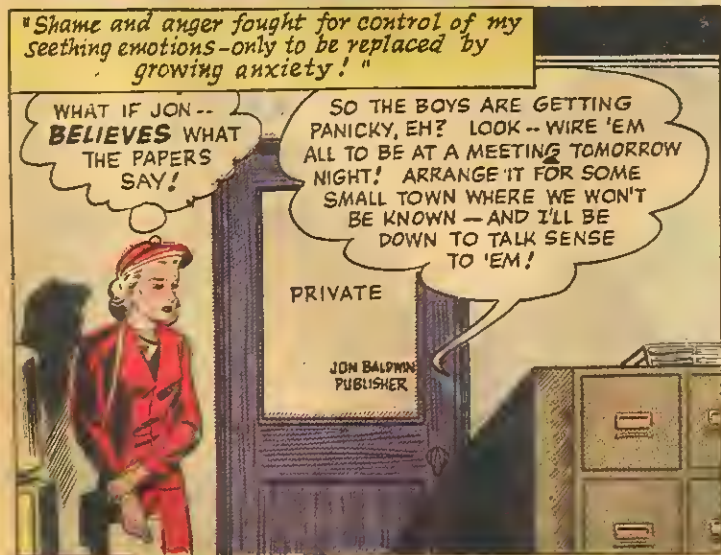
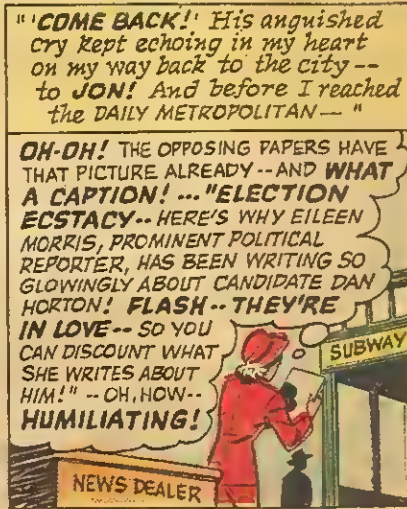
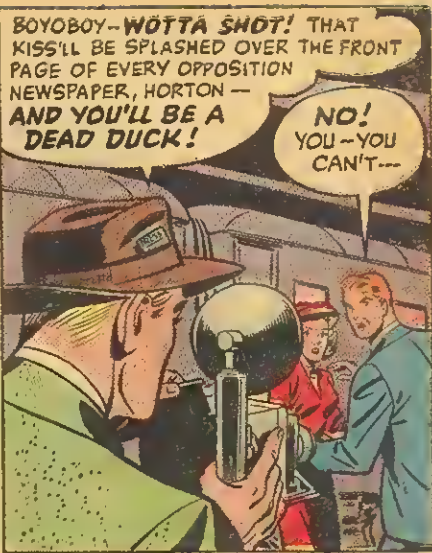
**THERE! WE'LL  
SEE WHAT HAPPENS  
WHEN THIS  
BREAKS!**

A man in a suit and tie is looking at a newspaper, while a woman in a red dress and hat looks on. The man is holding the newspaper open, and the woman is looking at it with a concerned expression. The background shows a building with a striped awning.





"This COULDN'T be happening -- not to ME, who knew her heart, knew her love! I was Jon Baldwin's girl, awaiting marriage and a life of luxury! Then why the fierce pounding of my pulses, the soul-searing ecstasy that flooded to the very core of my being -- in the arms of ANOTHER MAN? Then -- a jeering voice brought me back to reality!"





"The warmth of his embrace showed that he **STILL** loved me! THIS was no silly, temporary infatuation -- it was the man who'd be mine for always!"

HOLD ME -- CLOSER, DEAR!

GLADLY -- YOU'VE HAD ME **WORRIED!** WHY'D YOU EVER WRITE THAT INSANE ARTICLE ATTACKING HORTON'S CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS? IF I'D SEEN IT FIRST, I ---

IS -- **THAT** ALL YOU'VE WORRIED ABOUT? HAVEN'T YOU SEEN THE **LATEST** PAPERS?

SURE -- **SO WHAT?** YOU'VE GOT MY PERMISSION TO KISS HORTON **ANY** TIME -- IT'S GREAT PUBLICITY! WHY, ACTUALLY, YOUR WOMEN READERS WILL THINK MORE HIGHLY OF HIM THAN EVER IF THEY BELIEVE HE'S IN LOVE WITH THEIR FAVORITE COLUMNIST!

YOU'RE NOT EVEN -- JEALOUS? HOW DO YOU KNOW -- I'M NOT IN LOVE WITH HIM? DON'T YOU CARE IF SOMEONE ELSE -- KISSES ME?

**DARLING** -- HOW CAN YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT! I TRUST YOU -- AND IF YOU DOUBT MY LOVE FOR YOU --

-- THEN -- MAYBE **THIS** WILL CONVINCE YOU -- **FOR ALWAYS!**

I'VE GOT TO BELIEVE HIM -- DOESN'T HE MEAN **EVERYTHING** TO ME? NO -- I CAN'T DOUBT HIM ---

THERE -- EVERYTHING'S SET BETWEEN US NOW, EN? AND IF YOU LOVE ME, YOU'LL UNDO THE DAMAGE WHICH YOUR ARTICLE DID TO HORTON'S CAMPAIGN! WE'VE GOT TO HELP ALONG THE CAUSE OF GOOD GOVERNMENT, YOU KNOW! SO, IF YOU'LL REJOIN THE CAMPAIGN TOUR -- AND KEEP WRITING THOSE RAVE COLUMNS ABOUT HORTON --

ALL RIGHT, JON! IF THAT'S -- HOW YOU WANT IT --

"And so I returned -- doubtful, afraid -- unsure even of myself --"

I -- I'M BACK, DAN! AND I'M -- SORRY I WROTE THAT ARTICLE CASTING DOUBT ON YOUR BACKERS! WILL YOU -- FORGIVE ME?

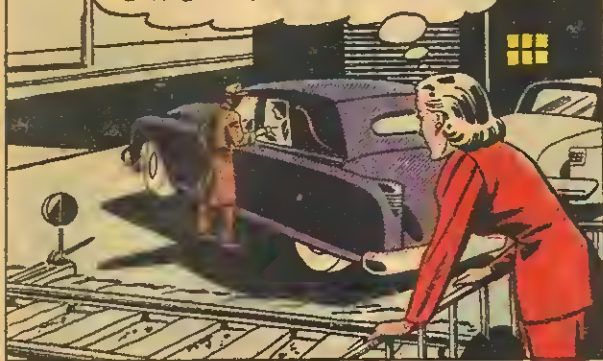
**WILL I -- AND AM I HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN!** I GUESS YOU REALIZE NOW THAT I DON'T EVEN **KNOW** ANYTHING ABOUT CAMPAIGN FUNDS -- THAT HALLEY, MY CAMPAIGN MANAGER, SEES TO ALL THAT!

GOSH, I NEVER REALIZED WHAT A POLITICAL INNOCENT DAN REALLY **IS!** HE'S LETTING HALLEY HANDLE **EVERYTHING** -- AND MAYBE THAT'S GOING TO INCLUDE PATRONAGE AND POLITICAL SPOILS! JON WOULDN'T LIKE ME MEDDLING -- **BUT I'M GOING TO KEEP AN EYE ON HALLEY!**



"I didn't know why Halley halted our campaign in a quiet town -- nor who the people in expensive limousines were that he conferred with furtively -- But --"

WHY, THAT'S **BILL TURCK** -- THE BIGGEST GAMBLER AND RACKETEER IN THE STATE! IT LOOKS AS IF SOMETHING'S REALLY COOKING -- **AND I'M GOING TO BE IN ON IT!**



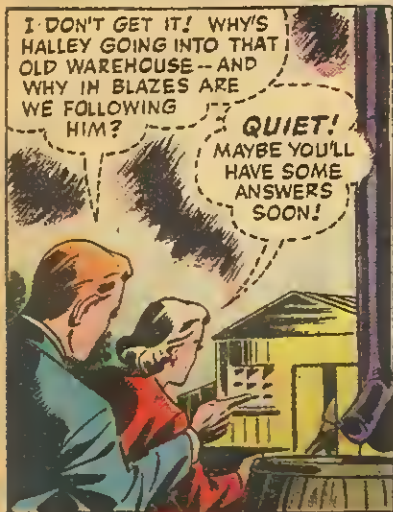
**HI, EILEEN!** WHERE YOU BOUND FOR?

**SH-HHH!** GLAD YOU'RE HERE, DAN -- JUST COME ALONG WITH ME AND KEEP AS QUIET AS YOU CAN -- AND DON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS!



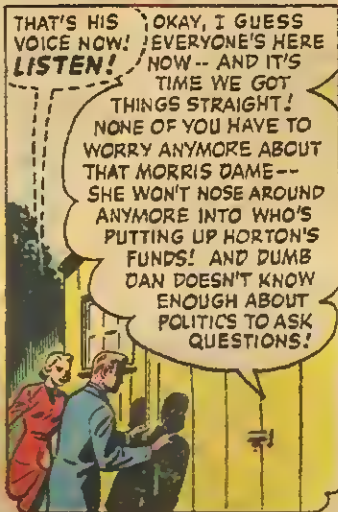
I DON'T GET IT! WHY'S HALLEY GOING INTO THAT OLD WAREHOUSE -- AND WHY IN BLAZES ARE WE FOLLOWING HIM?

**QUIET!** MAYBE YOU'LL HAVE SOME ANSWERS SOON!



THAT'S HIS VOICE NOW! **LISTEN!**

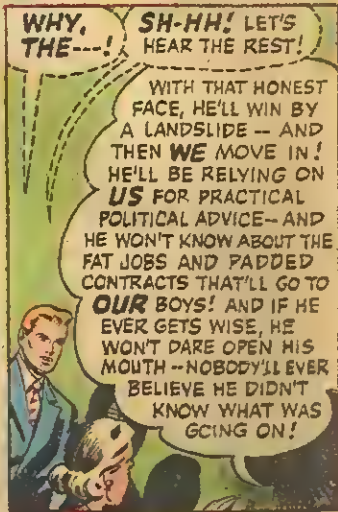
OKAY, I GUESS EVERYONE'S HERE NOW -- AND IT'S TIME WE GOT THINGS STRAIGHT! NONE OF YOU HAVE TO WORRY ANYMORE ABOUT THAT MORRIS DAME -- SHE WON'T NOSE AROUND ANYMORE INTO WHO'S PUTTING UP HORTON'S FUNDS! AND DUMB DAN DOESN'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT POLITICS TO ASK QUESTIONS!



**WHY, THE---**

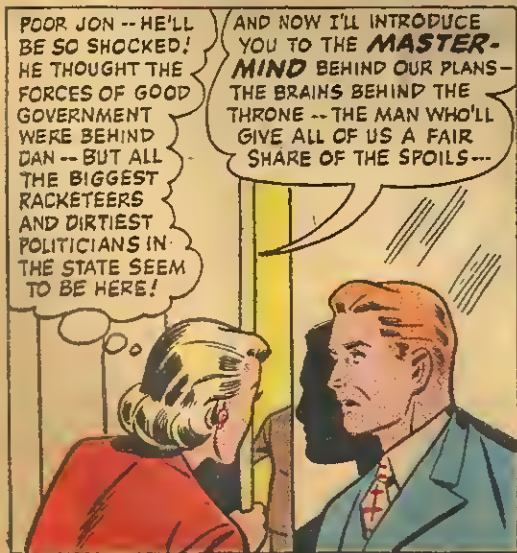
**SH-HH!** LET'S HEAR THE REST!

WITH THAT HONEST FACE, HE'LL WIN BY A LANDSLIDE -- AND THEN **WE** MOVE IN! HE'LL BE RELYING ON **US** FOR PRACTICAL POLITICAL ADVICE -- AND HE WON'T KNOW ABOUT THE FAT JOBS AND PADDED CONTRACTS THAT'LL GO TO **OUR BOYS!** AND IF HE EVER GETS WISE, HE WON'T DARE OPEN HIS MOUTH -- NOBODY'LL EVER BELIEVE HE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON!



POOR JON -- HE'LL BE SO SHOCKED! HE THOUGHT THE FORCES OF GOOD GOVERNMENT WERE BEHIND DAN -- BUT ALL THE BIGGEST RACKETEERS AND DIRTIEST POLITICIANS IN THE STATE SEEM TO BE HERE!

AND NOW I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THE **MASTER-MIND** BEHIND OUR PLANS -- THE BRAINS BEHIND THE THRONE -- THE MAN WHO'LL GIVE ALL OF US A FAIR SHARE OF THE SPOILS --



-- **JON BALDWIN!**

**OH, N-NO!**

**WE'RE BEIN' SPIED ON! GRAB 'EM!**





"It was the end of my world -- the wreckage of all my most cherished ideals! I saw the whole dirty plot now -- and my heart broke as we were seized and dragged struggling within!"

**JON! IT ISN'T TRUE -- TELL ME IT ISN'T TRUE!**

WELL, WELL! IF IT ISN'T OUR TWO LITTLE LOVEBIRDS -- FINDING OUT THINGS THEY'RE BETTER OFF NOT KNOWING!

YES, MY DEAR -- **IT'S TRUE!** I CONFESS IT ALL -- I MADE LOVE TO YOU TO HELP TALK YOU INTO CLIMBING ABOARD THE HORTON BANDWAGON -- AND STAYING THERE! AND NOW YOU'VE LEARNED TOO MUCH, BUT IT'S TOO LATE FOR YOU TO DO ANYTHING -- THE ELECTION'S ONLY TWO DAYS AWAY AND WE'RE GOING TO KEEP YOU **LOCKED UP HERE UNTIL IT'S OVER!**



"What was there left for me now? Truth, faithfulness, honesty -- all had vanished! But wait -- there was **STILL** one man in whom I could repose my confidence -- **DAN HORTON!**"

**HE'LL GET ME OUT OF THIS -- HE'S THE ONLY ONE I CAN DEPEND ON NOW! HE SAID HE LOVED ME, AND AT LEAST HE'S TO BE TRUSTED -- IN POLITICS OR IN LOVE!**

AND AS FOR **YOU**, SMART BOY, WE'RE IN THIS THING FOR HIGH STAKES! YOU'LL GO THROUGH WITH THE CAMPAIGN AND YOU'LL PLAY BALL WITH US -- OR THERE MIGHT BE A SLIGHTLY FATAL ACCIDENT, GET IT?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT **ME**, PAL! **SURE** I'LL PLAY BALL -- IF YOU BIRDS HAD LET ME IN ON THE PLAN FROM THE FIRST, I'D HAVE STRUNG ALONG GLADLY! I DON'T CARE **HOW** I GET ELECTED -- AS LONG AS I BECOME **GOVERNOR!**

ON... DAN... YOU... TOO...

**NOW YOU'RE TALKING -- GOVERNOR!**

"It wasn't Eileen Morris who was pushed into a bare room -- but the wretched ghost of a woman whose heart had shriveled and died within her! Two men had claimed their love for me -- and each had betrayed me heartlessly! I was alone -- unloved --"

KEEP HER THERE UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION, DUTCH -- HANK'LL BRING GROCERIES EACH DAY! SHE'S NOT TO HAVE CONTACT WITH **ANYONE**... WE CAN'T RISK HER TALKING!

IF ONLY... I COULD **DIE...**

"The hours flew by! Drenched with hot tears of despair and wrapped in aching grief, I somehow managed to live through the days until the dawn of election day, when curiosity aroused me from my despondency..."

THAT'S ODD -- I THOUGHT I HEARD TWO CARS DRIVE UP! IT'S TOO EARLY TO BRING THE GROCERIES! OH -- I WISH I COULD SEE WHAT'S GOING ON THROUGH THIS WINDOW!





Suddenly...

DAN--  
YOU!

HURRY, EILEEN -- THERE'S  
NO TIME FOR EXPLANATIONS!  
YOU'RE FREE TO LEAVE -- I'VE  
GOT A CAB OUTSIDE WITH  
ORDERS TO TAKE YOU BACK  
TO THE CITY! I'M HEADED  
IN ANOTHER DIRECTION  
-- **THE NEAREST  
RADIO STATION!**

"Bewildered, I was hustled into a cab and driven  
off! Obviously, they'd decided I couldn't do any  
damage now that election day was already here!  
Then, from the cab's radio ---"

**FLASH!** WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM  
TO BRING YOU THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT!  
IN FIFTEEN MINUTES, DANIEL HORTON, CANDIDATE  
FOR GOVERNOR, WILL MAKE AN IMPORTANT  
STATEMENT ON ALL RADIO AND TELEVISION  
STATIONS! ALL VOTERS ARE URGED  
TO TUNE IN!

THAT DINER'S  
GOT A TELEVISION  
AERIAL, DRIVER!  
**STOP THERE!**

"Puzzled, a growing excitement  
seething in my heart,  
I waited -- until --"

**CITIZENS AND VOTERS!**  
THE POLLS ARE NOW OPENING  
--AND BEFORE YOU GO OUT  
TO VOTE, I WANT YOU TO  
KNOW THAT I AM WITH-  
DRAWING FROM THE GUBER-  
NATORIAL RACE -- BECAUSE  
I AM **UNWORTHY OF  
HOLDING OFFICE!**

I HAD THOUGHT THAT HONESTY  
AND SINCERITY WERE ALL A  
CANDIDATE NEED TO SERVE THE  
PEOPLE! I DIDN'T REALIZE  
THAT AN INEXPERIENCED AMATEUR  
LIKE MYSELF COULD HAND THE  
STATE OVER TO THE FORCES OF  
CORRUPTION THROUGH LACK OF  
POLITICAL KNOWLEDGE! I'VE BEEN  
A **DUPE** -- AND YOU, THE PEOPLE,  
HAVE BEEN FOOLED! I WAS  
HANDICAPPED AS A NOMINEE BY  
VICIOUS ELEMENTS LED BY JON  
BALDWIN BECAUSE I WAS HONEST  
BUT  
**DUMB!**

"Husky with emotion, Dan's voice  
went on, revealing the whole  
plot! Courageously he was sacri-  
ficing himself -- for the cause of  
good government! HERE was a  
man to trust -- to LOVE!"

--AND SINCE I AM  
UNWORTHY OF THE GOVERNOR-  
SHIP, I ASK YOU -- THE PEOPLE  
WHOM I WOULD HAVE GIVEN MY  
LIFE TO SERVE -- TO VOTE FOR  
MY **OPPONENT!**

OH, DAN -- **DAN** --  
YOU WERE --  
**WONDERFUL!**

WOTTA  
MAN -- AND  
WHAT  
**GUTS!**

"I sped back  
to the city,  
because I had  
to vote--  
**FOR DAN!**  
And that  
night, as the  
amazing  
returns  
flooded  
over the  
wires--"

THIS IS TRULY THE MOST STUNNING  
ELECTION IN HISTORY, FOLKS! FOR  
DAN HORTON, AFTER BEGGING THE  
VOTERS **NOT** TO VOTE FOR HIM,  
**IS SWEEPING THE STATE!**  
YES, THERE'S GOOD NEWS TONIGHT--  
FOR DECENCY -- FOR GOOD  
GOVERNMENT -- FOR THE PEOPLE!

**DAN! YOU DID  
IT! YOU  
DID IT!**

--AND RIGHT NOW, A HUGE VICTORY CROWD IS  
GATHERING IN FRONT OF GOVERNOR HORTON'S  
HOME, CHEERING  
THE RESULTS!

I -- I'VE GOT TO SEE  
HIM, IF ONLY FROM A DISTANCE  
-- IN HIS MOMENT OF  
TRIUMPH!

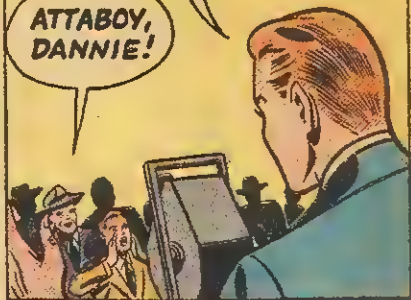


"And there he was-- the man whose courage had won through to sweeping victory! Dan Horton, the people's choice -- the choice of my heart --- "



I HARDLY KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, MY FRIENDS, FOR THE HONOR YOU'VE BESTOWED ON ME! BUT I FEEL THAT THE BEST WAY TO REPAY YOUR CONFIDENCE IS TO RUN ALL THE FORCES OF CORRUPTION, INCLUDING JON BALDWIN HIMSELF, RIGHT OUT OF THE STATE -- AND I'M GOING TO DO IT!

ATTABOY, DANNIE!



YES, THIS IS THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE -- AND IT WOULD BE COMPLETE IF ONLY THE GIRL I LOVE COULD BE AT MY SIDE! YOU'VE ALL SEEN HER PICTURE IN HER NEWSPAPER COLUMNS -- YOU'VE SEEN THAT FRONT-PAGE PHOTO OF US KISSING -- SO YOU KNOW WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE! I HAVE A STRANGE FEELING SHE'S DOWN THERE AMONG YOU SOMEWHERE! PLEASE, ALL OF YOU, LOOK AROUND -- AND IF YOU SEE EILEEN MORRIS -- PLEASE ASK HER TO COME UP HERE!

"Crimson with embarrassment, I tried hiding my face, looking inconspicuous -- but -- "

WHY ARE YOU HIDING, DEARIE? -- HEY! I'VE FOUND HER -- HERE SHE IS! C'MON, SISTER -- THE GOVERNOR'S WAITING!



THERE YOU ARE, GOVERNOR HORTON -- YOUR BRIDE-TO-BE!

NO, DON'T! PLEASE LET ME -- OH, DAN!

EILEEN -- DARLING!



"And then we faced each other--and the rest of the world ceased to exist! For two people who loved each other were together for now -- FOR ALWAYS! "

SWEETHEART -- I NEVER MEANT THOSE WORDS I SAID TO BALDWIN! I HAD TO PRETEND TO FALL IN WITH HIM TO SAVE YOUR LIFE -- I HAD TO WAIT UNTIL I COULD RESCUE YOU --

C'MON, GOVERNOR!

YOU'RE A REAL POLITICIAN ALREADY-- TALKING TOO MUCH! BUT AS A POLITICIAN, YOU SHOULD YIELD TO THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE -- HEAR THEM?

KISS HER!



I -- LOVE YOU, EILEEN! WILL YOU -- MARRY ME?

JUST TRY-- STOPPING ME!



"That's MY love story, reader--and it's a story that's just begun! For I'm first lady of the state now--and the first lady of the Governor's heart! I'd cast my vote for ROMANCE-- THE WINNING TICKET! "



# SOMEONE DIFFERENT

**P**RISCILLA EVANS was plain tired and bored with it all. "Don't you see, Charley?" she explained, sipping her malt between sentences.

"No, I *don't*!" Charles answered stubbornly.

"We have the same date every week. First movies and then this old ice cream parlor. I want to see something more in life!" This last was a line from the movie they had just seen. "And that's why I'm not going out with you next week. I've accepted a date with Randy Williams!"

Charley was genuinely shocked. "Randy Williams is a *wolf*!" he said flatly. "Don't go out with him, Prissy...please!"

Priscilla assumed a super-sophisticated expression. "I can take care of myself!" she pronounced. "You're just jealous, because Randy has a car and wears a tuxedo whenever he wants to!"

All of Charlie's male pride rose to his defense. "All right!" he said. "Go ahead! Go out with him! See if I care!"

By the time Priscilla's date with Randy Williams rolled around, she had figured out a new hair-do and learned to apply lots of eye makeup. After all, she didn't want Randy to think she was just a little teen-aged hick.

And obviously, Randy did not think so as he held open the door of his bright red convertible and helped her in. "Mmmm," he made an appreciative sound, "you're a hep-lookin' chick, chick!"

He did not ask her where she would like to go. He just drove the car straight through town, fast, and out onto the highway. "There's a little roadside joint you'll like if you haven't been there already," he assured her.

The little roadside joint proved to be a small, dimly-lit tavern crowded with people who were making lots of noise and seemed to be drinking heavily. For the first time, Priscilla began to feel a little uneasy.

She didn't feel any better when Randy set a tall glass down in front of her and said, "Drink this, it's plenty strong!"

The first sip made Priscilla feel ill. "If you don't mind," she said faintly, "I don't feel very well." Would you mind terribly if we got back into the car? I...I need some fresh air!"

"I get it," Randy said wisely. He drove to the outskirts of town, where the streets were not bright with lights, and parked the car. "You want to get to know me better, is that it, baby?" He pulled Priscilla roughly into his arms and bent his face towards her.

Now Prissy was really sick... and frightened, too! Wrenching herself free, she blurted, "No! I don't care if I *never* get to know you better!" And then she ran.

Out of the car, down the streets, through town, and straight towards that wonderful ice cream parlor, where maybe...maybe...

He was there! Wonderful, dear, familiar, clean-cut Charley, all alone at the fountain, sipping a malt and looking miserably lonesome. Breathlessly, Prissy sat herself on the fountain stool next to Charley's.

"Oh, Charley," she gasped, and her eyes begged for comfort and forgiveness, "I'm back. You...you were right! I'm sorry! I'll never do it again!"

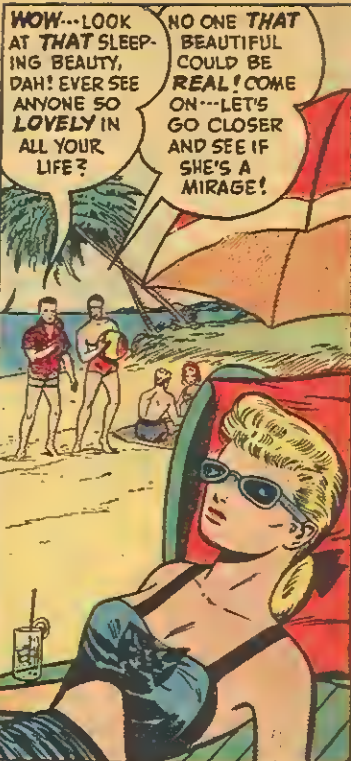
Charley's eyes began to smile at her. "Let's have another double-malt," he ordered grandly. "We can still make the movies tonight, Prissy!"



# Love IS BLIND

JOHN  
BELFI

THEY SAY *ROMANCE* IS EVERY GIRL'S DUE...THAT SOMEWHERE IN THIS WIDE WORLD, THERE'S A MAN FOR EVERY WOMAN! BUT WHO IS THERE FOR *ME*? OF WHAT USE MY BEAUTY...WHEN PEOPLE TURN FROM ME? YES, A HUNGRY HEART'S OF LITTLE AVAIL...WHEN YOU'RE...**BLIND!**



WOW...LOOK AT *THAT* SLEEPING BEAUTY, DAH! EVER SEE ANYONE SO LOVELY IN ALL YOUR LIFE?

NO ONE THAT BEAUTIFUL COULD BE REAL! COME ON...LET'S GO CLOSER AND SEE IF SHE'S A MIRAGE!

**I** WASN'T ASLEEP, AND WHEN I HEARD THE FRANK, UNASHAMED ADMIRATION IN THEIR VOICES, I FELT MY HEART BEGIN TO POUND...FOR ALL TOO WELL I KNEW HOW THIS WAS GOING TO TURN OUT!"

LOOK...SHE MOVES...SHE IS REAL! IF THIS IS YOUR FIRST VISIT TO PALM BEACH, MISS, WE'D BE HONORED TO SHOW YOU AROUND!

THAT'S VERY KIND OF YOU, BUT I HAPPEN TO LIVE HERE...JUST A FEW BLOCKS AWAY!

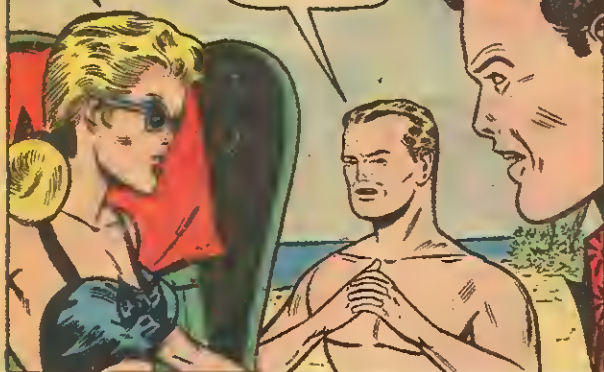
WONDERFUL! COME ON...LET'S CELEBRATE OUR ACQUAINTANCE BY TAKING A DIP!





I... I'M SORRY  
...I CAN'T GO  
SWIMMING  
WITH YOU!

PLEASE... WE'LL EVEN  
BEG YOU! NOTHING  
CAN BREAK UP THE BEGINNING  
OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL FRIEND-  
SHIP WITH TWO SUCH HAND-  
SOME AND ELIGIBLE YOUNG  
BACHELORS!



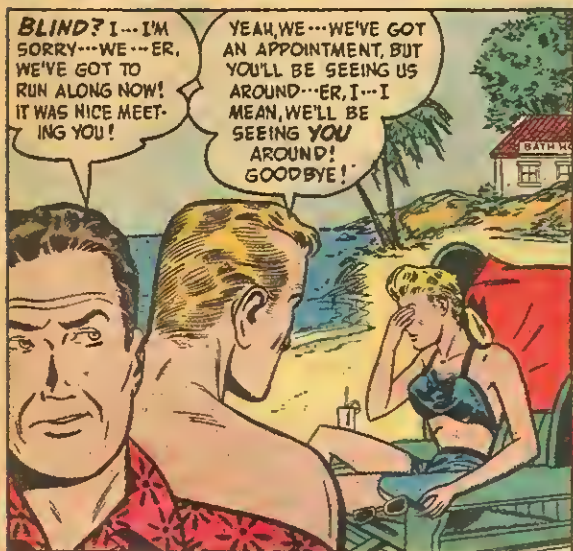
"BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT COULD BREAK  
IT UP... SOMETHING THAT I HAD TO TELL THEM..."

I CAN'T TELL WHETHER YOU'RE  
HANDSOME OR NOT! YOU SEE,  
I... I'M BLIND!



BLIND? I... I'M  
SORRY... WE... ER,  
WE'VE GOT TO  
RUN ALONG NOW!  
IT WAS NICE MEET-  
ING YOU!

YEAH, WE... WE'VE GOT  
AN APPOINTMENT, BUT  
YOU'LL BE SEEING US  
AROUND... ER, I... I  
MEAN, WE'LL BE  
SEEING YOU  
AROUND!  
GOODBYE!



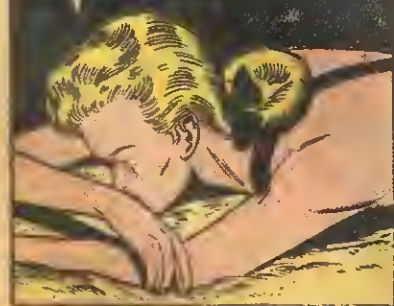
ONCE AGAIN,  
THE OLD WOUNDS  
IN MY HEART  
WERE TORN  
OPEN AFRESH!  
EYES THAT WOULD  
NEVER SEE THE  
LOVE-LIGHT IN  
A MAN'S FACE,  
NOR A HAPPY  
INFANT'S SMILE  
...THOSE BLANKLY  
STARING, SIGHTLESS  
EYES COULD  
ONLY WEEP...  
DESPAIRINGLY...  
HOPELESSLY!"



MEN HAVE FLED FROM ME SO MANY  
TIMES BEFORE THAT I... I OUGHT TO  
BE USED TO IT BY NOW! BUT IT HURTS  
MORE AND MORE EACH TIME! I... I'LL  
NEVER BE LOVED... NO MAN WOULD  
EVER WANT TO MARRY A BLIND GIRL,  
NO MATTER HOW BEAUTIFUL  
SHE IS!



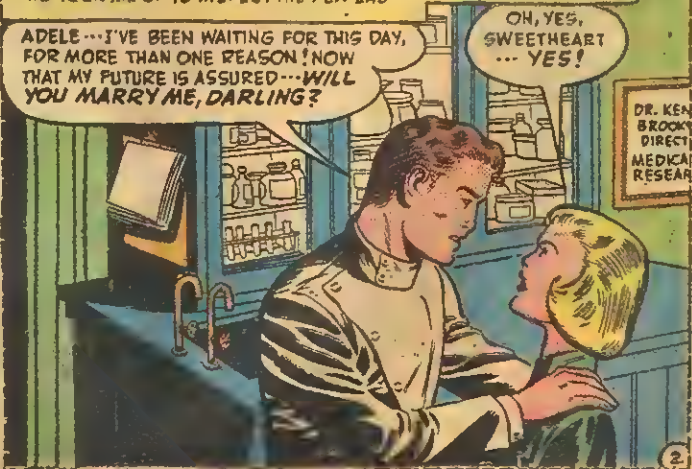
A BLACK, LOVELESS WORLD, WITH NEVER  
A CHANCE AT A NORMAL LIFE OF  
ROMANCE AND MARRIAGE... THAT'S  
BEEN MY FATE EVER SINCE THE DAY IT  
HAPPENED! IT... IT'S BEEN TWO YEARS  
NOW... IT STILL BURNS IN MY MEMORY  
AS IF ETCHED IN WITH SOME TERRIBLE  
ACID... LIKE THE ACID THAT SEARED  
ME THAT DAY IN KEN'S LAB!



"THE DAY HAD STARTED OUT SO WONDERFULLY... KEN HAD JUST BEEN  
MADE MEDICAL RESEARCH DIRECTOR AT THE HOSPITAL... AND WHEN  
HE TOOK ME UP TO INSPECT HIS NEW LAB..."

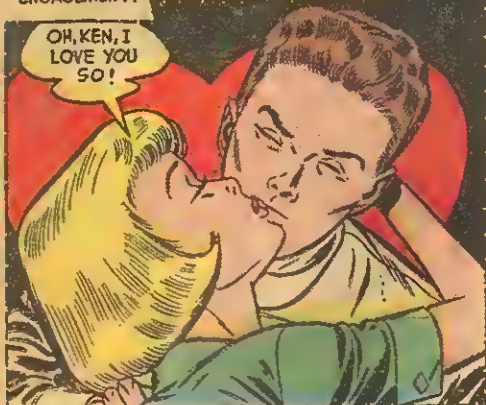
ADELE... I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS DAY,  
FOR MORE THAN ONE REASON! NOW  
THAT MY FUTURE IS ASSURED... WILL  
YOU MARRY ME, DARLING?

OH, YES,  
SWEETHEART  
... YES!





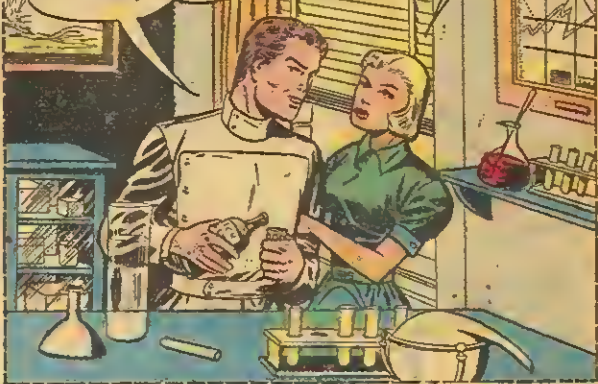
**"THIS WAS THE DAY I'D BEEN WAITING FOR...AND THE MAN I'D BEEN WAITING FOR! IT HAD BEEN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT FROM THE MOMENT WE'D MET...SWEET, RAPTURIOUS LOVE...AS ECSTATIC AS THE FERVENT KISS THAT NOW SEALED OUR ENGAGEMENT!"**



OH, KEN, I LOVE YOU SO!

COME ON, DARLING. LET'S DRINK TO OUR HAPPINESS! I KNOW A DOCTOR ISN'T SUPPOSED TO DRINK, BUT ON THE DAY WHEN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN THE WORLD MAKES ME THE HAPPIEST MAN, THERE'S AN EXCUSE!

ALL RIGHT, DEAR...BUT JUST ONE!



**"BUT KEN DIDN'T STOP AT JUST ONE! DESPITE MY WORDS OF CAUTION, HE DRANK TOAST...AFTER TOAST...TO OUR HEALTH, OUR HAPPINESS, OUR LOVE...TO EVERYTHING HE COULD THINK OF! AND THEN, AS HE WAS MAKING A PARTICULARLY EXUBERANT GESTURE..."**

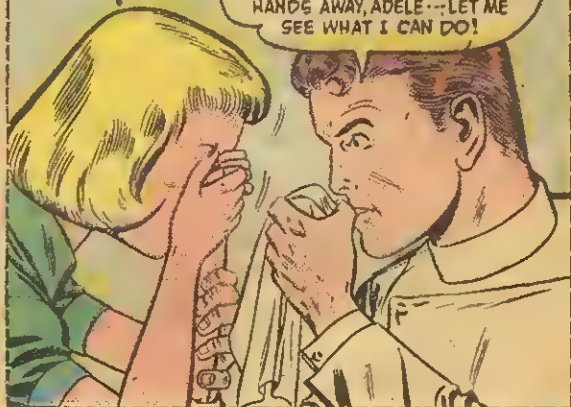
AND NOW, A TOAST TO...OOPS!

OH HH...MY EYES!

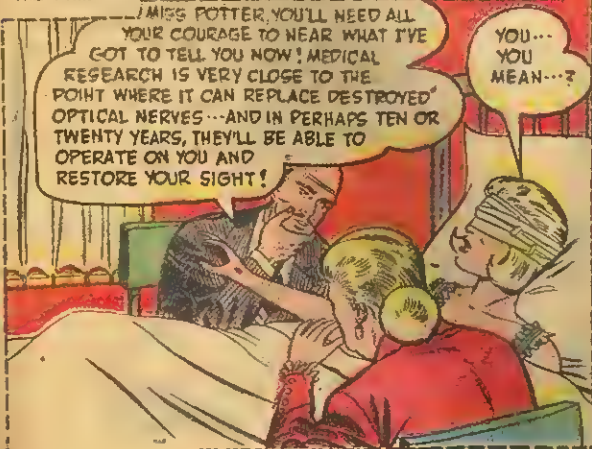


KEN...HELP ME! MY EYES...THEY'RE BURNING... TERRIBLY!

GREAT SCOTT...THERE WAS A POWERFUL ACID IN THAT BOTTLE! I CAN NEUTRALIZE THE DROPS THAT SPLASHED ON YOUR FACE, BUT IF ANY GOT IN YOUR EYES...! TAKE YOUR HANDS AWAY, ADELE...! LET ME SEE WHAT I CAN DO!



**"BUT THERE WAS NOTHING KEN COULD DO...EXCEPT CARRY ME FRANTICALLY DOWN TO A HOSPITAL WARD BELOW! THEN, HOURS LATER, AFTER THE DRUGS THEY GAVE ME HAD DEADENED THE PAIN..."**



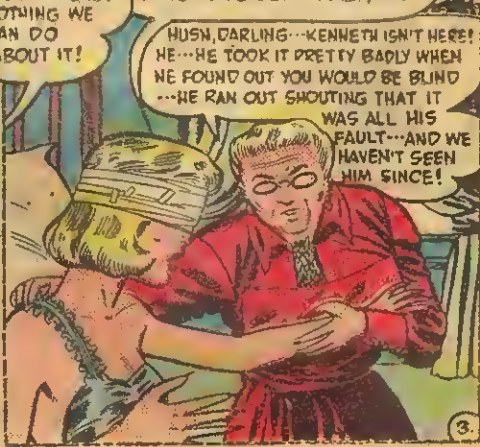
MISS POTTER, YOU'LL NEED ALL YOUR COURAGE TO HEAR WHAT I'VE GOT TO TELL YOU NOW! MEDICAL RESEARCH IS VERY CLOSE TO THE POINT WHERE IT CAN REPLACE DESTROYED OPTICAL NERVES...AND IN PERHAPS TEN OR TWENTY YEARS, THEY'LL BE ABLE TO OPERATE ON YOU AND RESTORE YOUR SIGHT!

YOU... YOU MEAN...?

YES...UNTIL THEN, YOU'LL BE BLIND...AND THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT!

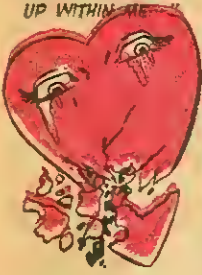
NO...NO...IT CAN'T BE! KEN... KEN...WHERE ARE YOU? TELL THEM THEY'RE WRONG...TELL ME I WON'T BE BLIND! KEN...!

HUSH, DARLING...KENNETH ISN'T HERE! HE...HE TOOK IT PRETTY BADLY WHEN HE FOUND OUT YOU WOULD BE BLIND...HE RAN OUT SHOUTING THAT IT WAS ALL HIS FAULT...AND WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE!





"BEN---THE MAN WHO SAID HE LOVED ME---HE'D ABANDONED ME IN MY HOUR OF NEED! NOW I HAD TO FACE THE BOTTOMLESS PIT OF DARKNESS ALONE! WILDLY, UNCONTROLLABLY, HYSTERIA WELLED UP WITHIN ME



I KNOW WHY HE RAN AWAY FROM ME--- HE DIDN'T WANT TO HAVE TO MARRY A **BLIND GIRL!** I CAN'T EVER SEE HIM AGAIN---BUT I DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM! I HATE HIM---HATE HIM!

ADELE--- YOU MUSTN'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT! YOU'RE **HYSTERICAL!**

ADELE---ADELE! WAKE UP---I'VE GOT GREAT NEWS FOR YOU!

OH---IT'S YOU, MOTHER! WHAT GREAT NEWS?

I JUST GOT IN TOUCH WITH A DOCTOR WHO CLAIMS HE CAN CURE YOU---MAKE YOU SEE AGAIN! HIS NEW TECHNIQUE OF TRANSPLANTING OPTICAL NERVES HAS BEEN A SUCCESS IN ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS---AND ALTHOUGH IT'S NEVER BEEN TRIED ON A HUMAN YET, HE'S SURE IT'LL WORK! COME ON AND MEET HIM---HE'S WAITING AT THE HOUSE!

I'M NOT LETTING ANYONE EXPERIMENT ON ME! IF IT HAD BEEN TRIED ON SOMEONE BEFORE---

BUT SOMEONE HAS TO BE THE FIRST ---AND YOU'VE GOT TO MEET DR. CURRY RIGHT AWAY! THERE'S A CURB HERE, DEAR ---STEP DOWN!

I'M SORRY, MOTHER---I ABSOLUTELY REFUSE TO BE A HUMAN GUINEA PIG!

BUT MOTHER INSISTED THAT I AT LEAST SPEAK TO THE DOCTOR BEFORE I MADE UP MY MIND ABOUT THE OPERATION, AND SO---

ADELE, I WANT YOU TO MEET ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT YOUNG RESEARCH DOCTORS IN THE COUNTRY---THE MAN WHO DISCOVERED THE TECHNIQUE OF THE OPERATION THAT WILL RESTORE YOUR SIGHT TO YOU---

... DR. JAMES CURRY!

I'M GLAD TO MEET YOU, MISS POTTER! YOUR MOTHER PROBABLY TOLD YOU THAT SHE READ ABOUT MY SUCCESSFUL ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS---AND WIRED ME TO COME HERE, SAYING THAT YOU'D BE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE FIRST HUMAN OPERATION OF ITS KIND!

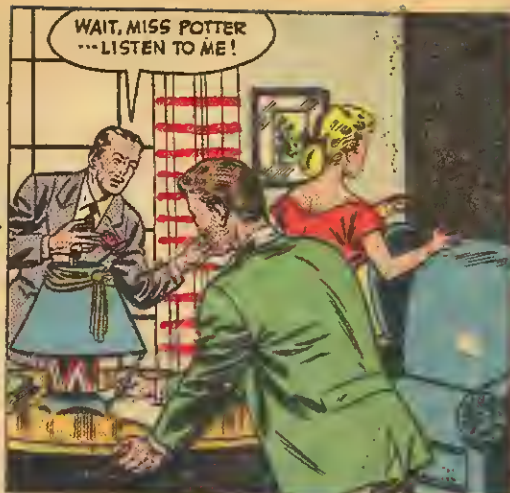
YES, BUT I --- I'M AFRAID SHE WAS **WRONG!**



I DON'T THINK I COULD BEAR THE DIS-  
APPOINTMENT OF HAVING THE OPERATION  
FAIL! I'VE BECOME RECONCILED TO MY  
BLINDNESS---AND IF I WERE TO  
SUDDENLY HOPE AGAIN, AND THEN  
HAVE THAT HOPE SHATTERED---I  
---I THINK I'D RATHER **DIE** FIRST!

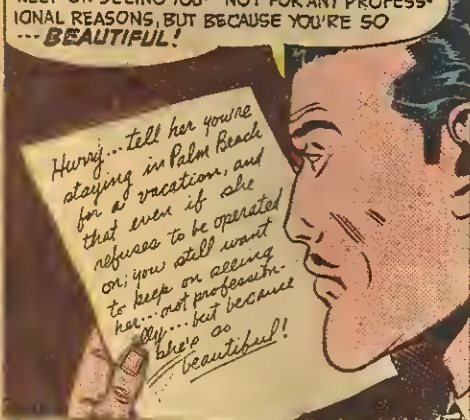


**"S** TURNED TO  
GO, PAINFULLY  
AWARE OF THE  
SUDDEN  
SILENCE THAT  
HAD FALLEN ON  
THE ROOM,  
RELIEVED  
THAT I COULDN'T  
SEE THE LOOK  
OF PITY WHICH  
I KNEW MUST  
BE IN DR.  
CURRY'S EYES  
AS HE GAZED  
AT ME!"



WAIT, MISS POTTER  
---LISTEN TO ME!

I'M STAYING IN PALM BEACH FOR A FEW WEEKS!  
VACATION, AND EVEN THOUGH YOU DON'T WANT ME  
TO OPERATE ON YOUR EYES, I'D STILL LIKE TO  
KEEP ON SEEING YOU---NOT FOR ANY PROFESSION-  
AL REASONS, BUT BECAUSE YOU'RE SO  
---**BEAUTIFUL!**

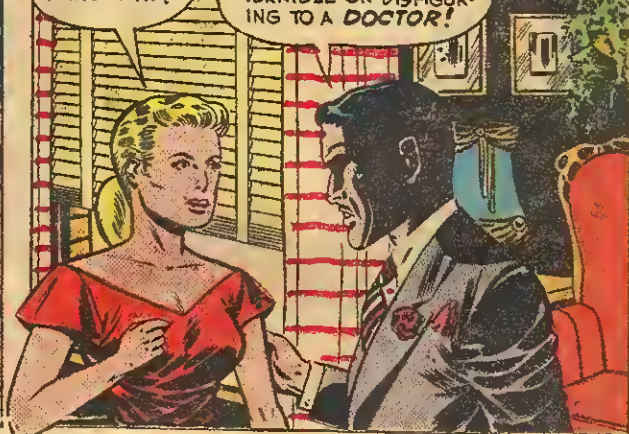


*Hurry...tell her you're  
staying in Palm Beach  
for a vacation, and  
that even if she  
refuses to be operated  
on, you still want  
to keep on seeing  
her...not profession-  
ally...but because  
she's so  
beautiful!*

"MY HEART LEAPED SUDDENLY AT HIS WORDS, AT THE WARM  
TOUCH OF HIS HANDS! BUT I DIDN'T DARE HOPE HE MEANT IT,  
FOR NOW COULD ANY MAN BE INTERESTED IN ME?"

BUT---BUT  
MY **BLINDNESS**  
---DON'T YOU  
MIND THAT?

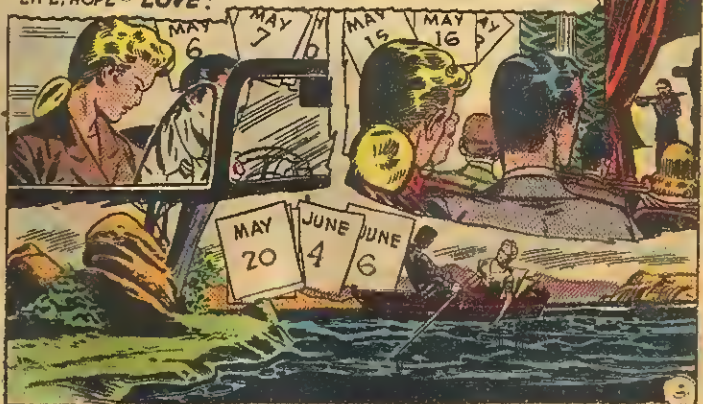
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE  
THINKING---**ADELE**---BUT  
BLINDNESS IS NOTHING  
TERRIBLE OR DISFIGUR-  
ING TO A **DOCTOR!**



WELL, IT WAS TO ONE DOCTOR  
---BUT MAYBE HE WAS JUST THE  
EXCEPTION! I---I'D BE **HAPPY**  
TO HAVE YOU VISIT ME WHILE  
YOU'RE IN PALM BEACH,  
DR. CURRY---ER, **JIM!**



**"A**ND I WAS HAPPY IN THE DAYS AND WEEKS THAT FOLLOWED---  
RAPTUROUSLY HAPPY! GONE WAS MY LONELINESS AND DESOLAT-  
ION---GONE WAS THE TERRIBLE CONVICTION THAT NO MAN WOULD  
EVER BE INTERESTED IN A BLIND GIRL---AND GRADUALLY, JIM'S  
INFINITE TENDERNESS AND AFFECTION REAWAKENED ME TO  
LIFE, HOPE---**LOVE!**"





"OCCASIONALLY, MY HEART WAS WRACKED WITH DOUBT --- WAS JIM REALLY INTERESTED IN ME AS A **WOMAN** --- OR AS A CASE HE WANTED TO OPERATE ON? BUT EACH TIME I FIERCELY TOLD MYSELF THAT HE WAS **SINCERE** IN HIS EXPRESSIONS OF AFFECTION, THAT HE WAS **TRUE** AND **LOYAL** --- NOT LIKE KEN, WHO HAD SO HEARTLESSLY ABANDONED ME!"



YOU'VE BEEN SO KIND AND TENDER, JIM... I'M **SURE** YOU COULD NEVER HURT ME THE WAY SOMEONE **ELSE** ONCE DID! IF --- IF ONLY I COULD **SEE** YOU... INSTEAD OF JUST HAVING TO **IMAGINE** HOW HANDSOME YOU ARE!

PERHAPS YOU **WILL** SEE ME SOME DAY, MY DEAR!

**YES, THE DAYS GLIDED JOYOUSLY BY, AND EACH DAY DREW JIM AND ME CLOSER AND CLOSER TOGETHER!**

KEN... YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BE DRINKING SO MUCH! WHAT IF YOU GOT DRUNK, AND ADELE FOUND OUT YOU WERE HERE? AND WHAT IF SHE FINALLY AGREES TO THE OPERATION --- AND THEN JIM NEEDS YOUR HELP?

I... I CAN'T HELP MYSELF, MRS. POTTER... I JUST CAN'T STAND SEEING HER IN ANOTHER MAN'S ARMS! BUT MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT... I **MIGHT** BE NEEDED DURING THE OPERATION!



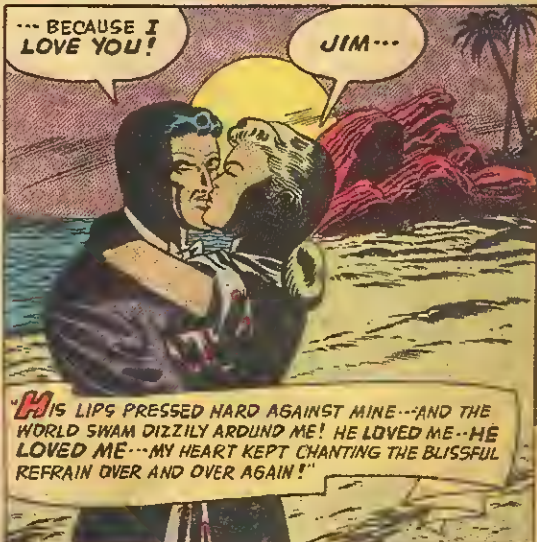
"THEN, ONE NIGHT..."

THERE'S A GLORIOUS FULL MOON OUT TONIGHT, ADELE... BUT SOMEHOW I CAN'T ENJOY IT, KNOWING THAT YOU CAN'T SEE IT! I WANT TO **SHARE** ALL THOSE JOYS WITH YOU --- WON'T YOU **PLEASE** RECONSIDER UNDER-GOING THE EYE OPERATION? I'M NOT ASKING YOU OUT OF PROFESSIONAL INTEREST... BUT BECAUSE I WANT YOU TO **SEE** AND BE **HAPPY**...



... BECAUSE I **LOVE** YOU!

JIM...



**HIS** LIPS PRESSED HARD AGAINST MINE... AND THE WORLD SWAM DIZZILY AROUND ME! HE LOVED ME... HE LOVED ME... MY HEART KEPT CHANTING THE BLISSFUL REFRAIN OVER AND OVER AGAIN!"

OH, SWEETHEART... I **LOVE** YOU SO! OF **COURSE** I'LL GO THROUGH WITH THE OPERATION NOW... I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO GO THROUGH THE REST OF YOUR LIFE BURDENED BY A **BLIND WIFE!**



"**TWO** WEEKS PASSED WHILE JIM HAD HIS SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS MADE TO ORDER... WEEKS WHICH I SPENT BLISSFULLY MAKING PLANS FOR THE FUTURE, WITH **BLIND** CONFIDENCE IN JIM'S LOVE AND ABILITIES! THEN --- THE DAY OF THE OPERATION DAWNED!"

I... I **KNOW** EVERYTHING'S GOING TO TURN OUT ALL RIGHT, JIM... BUT... BUT IS IT WISE FOR **YOU** TO OPERATE ON ME? ISN'T THERE A SAYING THAT A DOCTOR SHOULD NEVER OPERATE ON SOMEONE HE LOVES, BECAUSE HE MIGHT BECOME TOO EMOTIONALLY UPSET TO PERFORM DELICATE SURGERY?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT A **THING**, DARLING... JUST RELAX AND LET THE ANESTHETIST PUT YOU TO SLEEP!





"I FELT MYSELF SLIPPING DOWN... DOWN INTO THE SWIRLING DEPTHS OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS!"

GOOD, SHE'S COMPLETELY UNDER THE ANESTHETIC...  
--- KEN!  
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WHY **SHOULDN'T** I BE HERE... WASN'T IT I WHO SPENT TWO LONG YEARS SLAVING DAY AND NIGHT TO DISCOVER THE TECHNIQUE OF TRANSPLANTING OPTICAL NERVES? I ONLY BROUGHT **YOU** INTO THE CASE BECAUSE I KNEW I COULD NEVER PERSUADE ADELE TO LET **ME** OPERATE ON HER... EVEN IF I STAYED SOBER LONG ENOUGH TO BE **ABLE** TO! COME ON, JIM... I TAUGHT YOU ALL I KNEW... **START OPERATING!**

ALL RIGHT, JIM, EASY DOES IT... THIS IS THE MOST CRUCIAL AND DELICATE POINT!  
--- JIM... WHAT'S **WRONG?**

I... I THOUGHT I WAS JUST TRYING TO TALK HER INTO THE OPERATION WHEN I TOLD HER I LOVED HER... BUT NOW I KNOW I **DO** LOVE HER! AND I... I CAN'T HELP THINKING THAT JUST ONE SLIP OF THE KNIFE WOULD... WOULD...

ADELE WAS RIGHT... A DOCTOR SHOULD NEVER OPERATE ON SOMEONE HE LOVES! I...  
--- I CAN'T GO THROUGH WITH IT, KEN!

YOU BLUBBERING FOOL... LET **ME** TAKE OVER! IF... IF ONLY MY HANDS WILL BE STEADY ENOUGH...

**A** HOUR LATER...

YOU WERE **WONDERFUL!** YOU'RE A SURGICAL ARTIST!

SAVE THE BOUQUETS UNTIL WE'RE **SURE** THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS... UNTIL SHE **SEES** AGAIN!

THANKS FOR WHAT YOU DID... NO MAN ALIVE COULD HAVE DONE A BETTER JOB!

IT SEEMED LIKE HOURS LATER THAT I BEGAN COMING OUT OF THE SWIRLING MISTS OF OBLIVION INTO REALITY! SUDDENLY THERE CAME AN OLD, FAMILIAR VOICE FROM OUT OF THE PAST... SURELY I MUST STILL BE DREAMING!"

YOU'RE A DOUBLE-CROSSER, JIM! I TOLD YOU TO TRY TO PERSUADE ADELE TO UNDERGO THE OPERATION... BUT I DIDN'T TELL YOU TO MAKE **LOVE** TO HER... AND MAKE HER FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU!

KEN'S VOICE! BUT IT... IT CAN'T BE!

BUT IT WAS THE **ONLY** WAY TO GET HER TO TRUST ME ENOUGH FOR THE OPERATION! AND ANYWAY, WHY SHOULD **YOU** CARE? YOU'VE TOLD ME YOU NO LONGER LOVE HER... THAT ALL YOU FELT FOR HER WAS **PITY!**

YES, I DID, BUT...

OHNN!





SHE'S REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS! ADELE...WHAT'S WRONG?

GO AWAY... GO AWAY! I HATE YOU... I HATE YOU BOTH! I JUST WANT TO DIE... DIE!

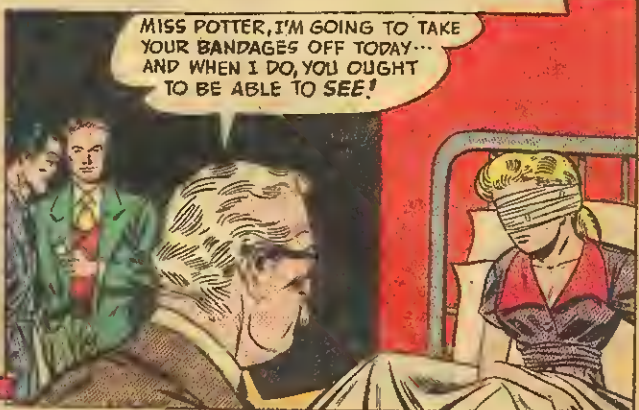
SHE... SHE MUST HAVE HEARD US! ADELE...

"TWICE I'D LOVED...AND TWICE I'D BEEN BETRAYED! THE FIRST ONE MERELY PITIED ME...AND THE SECOND HAD UTTERED FALSE WORDS OF LOVE, MERELY TO SECURE A GUINEA PIG FOR HIS OPERATION! IT WAS THIS AWFUL SHOCK WHICH DROVE ME INTO A WEEK-LONG DELIRIUM..."

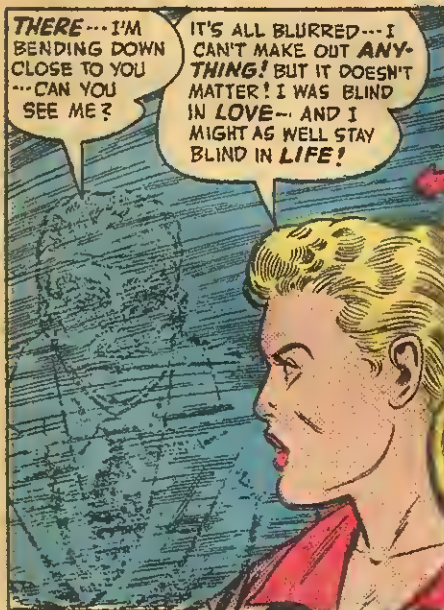
I CAN SEE THEM... THEY'RE LAUGHING! THEIR LOVE WAS A SNARE, A MOCKERY...AND WITHOUT LOVE, I DON'T WANT TO LIVE!



"FINALLY, MY FEVER WAS SPENT! THIS SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE GREATEST MOMENT OF MY LIFE, BUT I KNEW ONLY A DULL SUFFERING!"

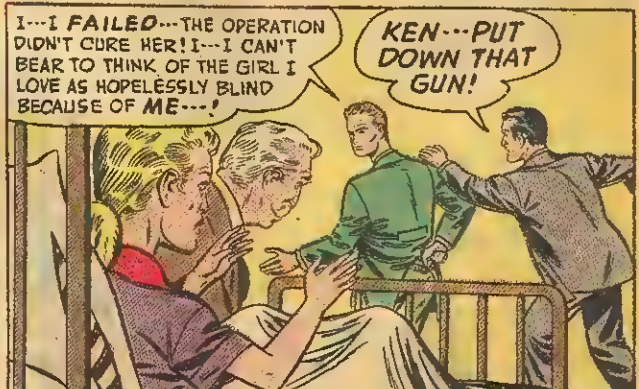


MISS POTTER, I'M GOING TO TAKE YOUR BANDAGES OFF TODAY... AND WHEN I DO, YOU OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO SEE!



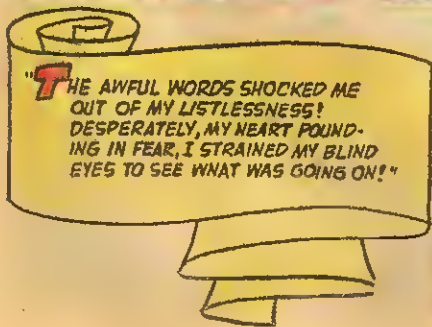
THERE...I'M BENDING DOWN CLOSE TO YOU...CAN YOU SEE ME?

IT'S ALL BLURRED...I CAN'T MAKE OUT ANYTHING! BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER! I WAS BLIND IN LOVE-- AND I MIGHT AS WELL STAY BLIND IN LIFE!



I...I FAILED...THE OPERATION DIDN'T CURE HER! I...I CAN'T BEAR TO THINK OF THE GIRL I LOVE AS HOPELESSLY BLIND BECAUSE OF ME...!

KEN...PUT DOWN THAT GUN!



"THE AWFUL WORDS SHOCKED ME OUT OF MY LISTLESSNESS! DESPERATELY, MY HEART POUNDING IN FEAR, I STRAINED MY BLIND EYES TO SEE WHAT WAS GOING ON!"

GET BACK...I'LL SHOOT ANYONE WHO TRIES TO SAVE MY WORTHLESS LIFE!

OH! WHAT...WHAT'S HAPPENING...WHO...WHO WAS SHOT? OH, DEAR LORD, PLEASE...PLEASE LET ME SEE AGAIN!

BANG!

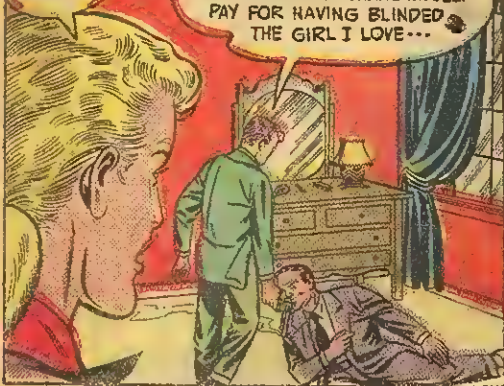




"EVERY QUINCE OF WILL AND LONGING WENT INTO MY ATTEMPT TO SEE! AND THEN, SUDDENLY... IN A BLINDING BURST OF LIGHT..."

OH!! I...  
I CAN  
SEE!

I---I'M SORRY, JIM---I HAD TO DO IT! BUT I'VE INFLICTED ENOUGH PAIN---NOW I'LL SQUARE THINGS WITH EVERYONE---MAKE MYSELF PAY FOR HAVING BLINDED THE GIRL I LOVE---



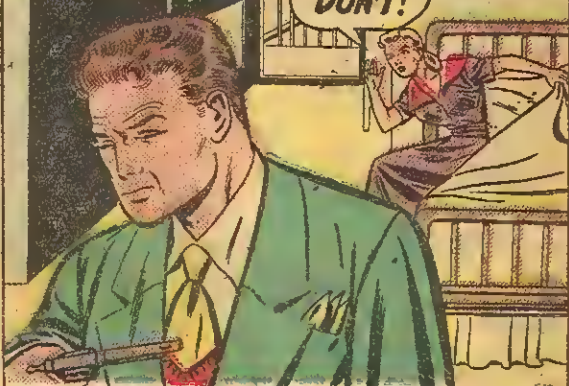
ADELE...  
YOU...YOU  
CAN SEE!-

YES, DARLING...YOU DIDN'T FAIL...THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS! I---I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO SEE BEFORE, BECAUSE THERE WAS NOTHING IN LIFE I WANTED! BUT NOW THAT I KNOW YOU DO LOVE ME, I'VE GOT EVERYTHING I WANT...I'VE GOT YOU!



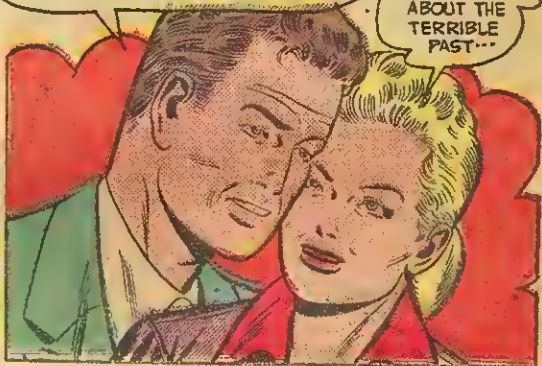
"YES I COULD SEE...AND NOW I ALSO SAW THE TRUTH FOR THE FIRST TIME! I REALIZED THAT KEN STILL LOVED ME...AND THAT I HAD NEVER STOPPED LOVING HIM! PANIC MADE ME HURTLE FROM MY BED...LOVE LENT WINGS TO MY FEET..."

KEN...  
DON'T!



ADELE... SWEETHEART! I...I'VE WAITED SO LONG FOR THIS...I COULDN'T BEAR TO LIVE WITH MYSELF UNLESS I SLAVED AWAY DAY AND NIGHT TO UNDO THE HARM I DID YOU...AND I GRAMMED TEN YEARS OF RESEARCH WORK INTO TWO WHILE PERFECTING A CURE FOR YOU! IF...IF I HADN'T SUCCEEDED, I---I---

I KNOW, DARLING... I KNOW! BUT LET'S THINK ONLY OF OUR FUTURE, LET'S FORGET ALL ABOUT THE TERRIBLE PAST...

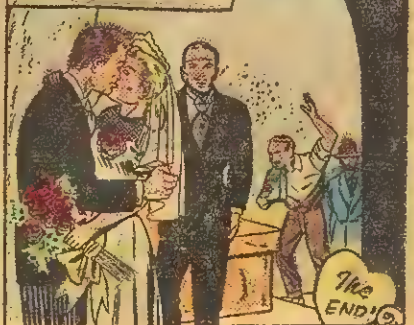


JIM... I'D FORGOTTEN ABOUT YOU--ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

JUST A FLESH WOUND...BUT ADELE'S FORGETTING ABOUT ME PROVES THAT SHE LOVES YOU, NOT ME!--I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU, TOO, ADELE...BUT NOW THAT I SEE KEN'S THE MAN TO MAKE YOU HAPPY, I'M CONTENT TO COME OUT SECOND-BEST!



"YES, READER, THERE'S A HAPPY ENDING... BECAUSE ISN'T LOVE THE HAPPIEST ENDING IN THE WORLD? AND TAKE IT FROM ONE WHO KNOWS, IF YOU AREN'T BLIND TO LOVE, THEN NOTHING--NOT EVEN THE MOST SERIOUS AFFLICTION...CAN STOP YOU FROM HAVING THIS KIND OF A HAPPY ENDING!"



The  
END!



# MATRIMONIAL MISTAKES

JUSTICE  
OF THE  
PEACE

EVERY GIRL DESERVES A LIFE OF LOVE, MARRIAGE AND HAPPINESS... BUT BEWARE OF THESE SHORT-CUTS TO UNHAPPINESS! DON'T RUSH OFF TO THE PREACHER AFTER THAT FIRST GLORIOUS KISS... BUT WAIT TO LET LOVE RIPEN IN ITS SLOW, NATURAL WAY... SO THAT YOU'LL BE SURE IT'S TRUE LOVE! YES, IF YOU DON'T WANT A LIFE OF MARRIED MISERY, WATCH OUT FOR THESE MATRIMONIAL MISTAKES!



FIRST, BEWARE OF LETTING YOUR HEART BE BETRAYED BY TOO ARDENT WOOLING! THE FACT THAT YOUR BOY-FRIEND KISSES IN IMPETUOUS, MOVIE-STAR FASHION DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN THAT HE'S IN LOVE WITH YOU... IT'LL TAKE TIME FOR YOU TO REALIZE THAT THERE'S MORE TO TRUE LOVE THAN MOONLIGHT AND KISSES!



EVERYONE NEEDS LOVE AND AFFECTION, AND IT'S ONLY NATURAL TO FEEL A SURGE OF EMOTION WHEN SOMEONE EXPRESSES HIS LOVE FOR YOU! BUT IN CASES LIKE THIS, IF YOU'RE ONLY IN LOVE WITH THE IDEA OF BEING LOVED, AND NOT WITH THE PERSON... THEN THINK TWICE BEFORE RUNNING OFF TO THE ALTAR, OR YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF MARRIED TO SOMEONE YOU DON'T REALLY CARE FOR!

IF... IF HE LOVES ME AS MUCH AS HE SAYS, THEN I MUST BE IN LOVE WITH HIM!



BEWARE OF GETTING MARRIED SIMPLY TO ESCAPE FROM AN UNHAPPY HOME LIFE OR AN UNPLEASANT JOB! FEW GIRLS WILL ADMIT TO ANY SUCH MOTIVE, EVEN TO THEMSELVES... BUT IT'S ACTUALLY QUITE COMMON... AND USUALLY LEADS TO AN EVEN UNHAPPIER LIFE!

I... I CAN'T STAND LIVING HERE ANY MORE... OH, IF ONLY SOME MAN WOULD COME ALONG AND TAKE ME AWAY FROM ALL THIS!



SUCH A GIRL WILL LOOK HOPEFULLY AT ALMOST ANY MAN WHO SMILES AT HER... AND IS LIKELY TO ELOPE WITH SOMEONE WHOM SHE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT!





**YES, IF YOU MARRY SOMEONE NAUGHTILY BECAUSE HE'S PROMISED TO TAKE YOU AWAY FROM IT ALL, YOU MAY FIND YOU'RE STUCK WITH A MAN YOU DON'T LOVE...AND SOMEONE WHO MIGHT WALK OUT OF YOUR LIFE AS EASILY AS HE WALKED INTO IT!**



**...BUT IF HE'S PERSISTENT, AND THERE'S NO ONE ELSE AROUND TO DATE YOU, YOU'RE LIKELY TO START ACCEPTING HIS INVITATIONS OUT OF PURE BOREDOM...BECAUSE THERE'S NOTHING BETTER TO DO!**



**THIS IS LIKELY TO HAPPEN TO ANY GIRL WHO GOES OUT WITH A MAN MERELY BECAUSE SHE'S BORED, RESTLESS OR LONELY! THE EASY WAY TO AVOID DRIFTING INTO MARRIAGE IS TO MAKE IT A RULE NOT TO GO OUT MORE THAN A FEW TIMES WITH ANYONE YOU WOULDN'T BE HAPPY TO MARRY!**

**I'M SORRY, ROGER, BUT I DON'T THINK WE OUGHT TO GO ON SEEING EACH OTHER! IT'S UNFAIR TO BOTH OF US TO TAKE UP EACH OTHER'S TIME...WHEN NOTHING CAN COME OF IT!**



**BEWARE OF STILL ANOTHER SHORT-CUT TO UNHAPPINESS...DRIFTING INTO MARRIAGE! AT FIRST, YOU MAY SCORNFULLY REJECT A SUITOR WHOM YOU'RE SURE YOU'D NEVER MARRY...**



**AFTER A WHILE, IT'LL GET TO BE A HABIT! PEOPLE WILL THINK YOU'RE ENGAGED...AND YOU MAY FIND IT'S EASIER TO GO THROUGH WITH IT THAN BREAK THINGS OFF AND CAUSE A LOT OF GOSSIP! AND PRESTO... YOU'VE DRIFTED INTO A LOVELESS MARRIAGE THAT'S BOUND TO BE UNHAPPY!**



**IF YOU'VE MANAGED TO AVOID THESE MAJOR MATRIMONIAL MISTAKES, IF YOUR ROMANCE HAS RIPENED NATURALLY INTO TRUE LOVE, THEN YOUR MARRIAGE HAS A WONDERFUL CHANCE OF SUCCEEDING...AND MAY ALL YOUR FINEST DREAMS COME TRUE!**



*The End!*  
2.



# You can't **FIGHT FATE**

**F**OR ALMOST two weeks now, Lucy Harris had felt like a first-class dope. "It was just a line, and I fell for it," she would say reproachfully to herself, every time Bob's name came into her mind.

They had met at a party and liked each other at once. Lucy had felt, in fact, that their meeting was an act of fate. They laughed at the same kinds of jokes, liked the same kind of food, enjoyed the same kind of movies and were perfect dance partners.

"Hey, I've been looking for a girl like you," Bob had whispered into Lucy's ear. "You can start checkin' all the other guys out, as of now! The first voice you hear tomorrow morning will be mine, on the phone, arranging a date!"

Lucy had been thrilled and happy. She had eagerly scribbled her full name, address and phone number for Bob. "It's a deal!" she had answered, laughing.

But the next morning, the phone had been silent and it continued being silent for two whole weeks. At first, Lucy had made excuses for Bob. He was busy, he was ill... oh, any number of excuses! It took about three days for Lucy to become very angry.

"What a dope I was!" she thought. "I believed him! Why, he probably tells the same thing to every girl he meets!"

Glancing at the clock, Lucy realized that it was almost half-past eight, time to leave for Bonnie Wilder's sweet sixteen party. As she gave herself a last-minute inspection, Lucy made one stern and final resolution.

"If I ever see Bob again," she vowed, "I'll snub him so hard, he'll think I'm an ice-cube!"

It was a good thing that Lucy had made that stern vow, for the instant she walked into Bonnie's living room, she saw him. Boh! He seemed to be scanning the door eagerly, and his face lit up when he saw her.

"Lucy! Lucy!" he shouted, dashing across the room toward her.

"Gosh, I'm glad to see you! I've been hoping you'd be here, because..."

Lucy looked at Bob coldly. "Why don't you tell me about it some other time?" she suggested icily. "Why don't you phone me tomorrow?"

Her face was flame-red, but she held her head high as she walked right past Boh, who stared at her, open-mouthed. "I snubbed him, all right," she said to herself as she went to Bonnie's dressing table, in the powder room, to see if she really looked as awful as she felt.

"My hair's a mess!" Lucy said, opening her little black velvet party purse and groping for her comb. Her hand struck a small scrap of paper. As she examined it, Lucy's face turned red all over again. It was the scrap of paper on which she had scribbled her address and phone number for Bob! She'd never given it to him!

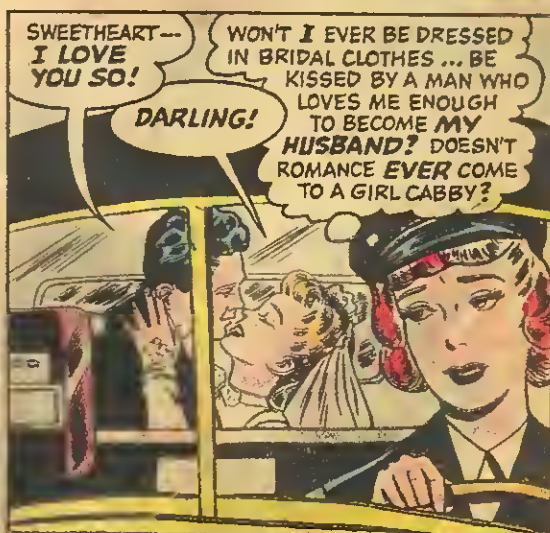
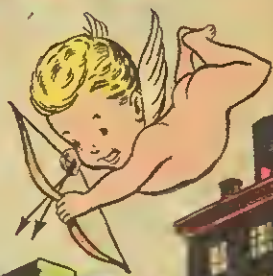
Disregarding her hair, Lucy fled from the powder room to find Bob. "Don't say a word," she admonished him, "it's all my fault! I'm sorry I was rude to you, Bob! It won't ever happen again!"

"I'm not worried," Bob grinned, escorting Lucy to the dance floor. "After all, I knew we'd make a swell pair... and you can't fight fate!"



# CUPID HAILS A CABBY

"You've read stories about princesses and debutantes -- now prepare yourself for something **NEW!** This is no story of pent-house kisses -- instead, it's just the romance of a girl who drove a cab! Yes, it's **MY** romance -- the tale of my defeat, my mistakes, and the heartache which was my lot before I won the man of my dreams! Scan it carefully, reader -- for there's much in it that **YOU** should know!"





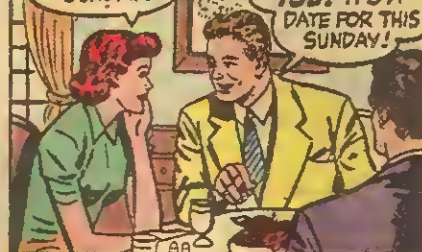
"As a cabby, I'd learned a lot about love and kisses--but it was **SECOND-HAND** knowledge, gained while watching romance pass me by in a rear-view mirror! Yes, I drove couple after couple to their first dates, then to their engagement parties and weddings, and finally to their honeymoons--while I could only watch, and eat my lovesick heart out with envy and longing!"



"But what was **WRONG** with me-- what was there about me that **REPELLED** love? I knew I was attractive-- because it was always easy for me to secure a date from any of the new males at my boarding house --"

YOU'RE A STRANGER IN TOWN, AREN'T YOU? MY NAME'S LINDA JACKSON-- BUT EVERYONE CALLS ME **LINDY!** IF YOU LIKE, I CAN SHOW YOU AROUND TOWN THIS SUNDAY!

MMMM! NOTHING SHY ABOUT **YOU**, IS THERE, MISS JACK-- ER, **LINDY?** WELL, I CERTAINLY DON'T WANT TO BE A STRANGER TO A LOVELY GIRL LIKE **YOU!** IT'S A DATE FOR THIS SUNDAY!



"Yes, **GETTING** a date was always easy--but for some reason or other, no man ever wanted to take me out again after that first time, no matter **HOW** friendly I tried to be!"

YOU'D BETTER LET **ME** DRIVE -- NO ONE KNOWS HIS WAY AROUND THIS BURG BETTER THAN I DO!

WELL, I--I...



"Of course, they always gave me an argument, but I knew they were merely trying to be **GENTLEMANLY** about it all-- and I was always firm in insisting that they just lean back and relax, and leave the work to me!"

THERE, I TOLD YOU THAT YOU'D ENJOY THE COUNTRYSIDE BETTER IF YOU LET ME DRIVE-- OH-OH-- WE'VE GOT A BLOWOUT!

DON'T LET IT BOTHER YOU-- I CAN CHANGE THE TIRE IN A JIFFY!



"Again I knew he was merely trying to be polite! This was an opportunity to show him how self-reliant I could be -- as a **WIFE!**"

SEE? I'LL BET YOU COULDN'T CHANGE THE TIRE AS QUICKLY AS THAT!

NO, I COULDN'T-- BUT I--I THINK WE'D BETTER START HEADING BACK! I--I'VE GOT A PAIN IN THE NECK--ER, I MEAN A HEADACHE!



"Then, when I stood with pounding heart, ready for a thrilling good-night kiss..."

AREN'T YOU -- **FORGETTING** SOMETHING?

I THINK I CAUGHT A COLD-- I WOULDN'T WANT **YOU** TO CATCH IT! GOOD-NIGHT, LIND--**MISS JACKSON!**



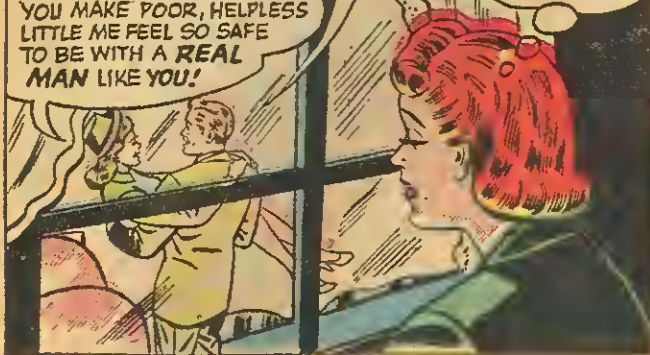


"Then followed days of bitter, brooding loneliness, spent in trying to understand why I was dateless once again, why I was a failure at romance--and why someone like Gloria Grant, that notorious husband-hunter who lived across the hall from me, always managed to steal my dates away!"

WHY, OF COURSE I CAN CARRY YOU OVER THAT PUDDLE, GLORIA---  
**THERE!**

HOW... HOW COULD HE FALL FOR THAT LINE OF TRIPE?

OH, MY--- YOU... YOU'RE SO **STRONG!** YOU MAKE POOR, HELPLESS LITTLE ME FEEL SO SAFE TO BE WITH A **REAL MAN LIKE YOU!**



"And then, one evening, the answer came!"

GLORIA, DARLING--YOU'RE SO SWEET AND **HELPLESS** THAT YOU MAKE ME WANT TO TAKE CARE OF YOU AND PROTECT YOU FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE--- YOU'VE MADE ME **FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU!**

**OH!!!**



**NOW I KNOW WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME -- WHY SHE SUCCEEDED WHERE I FAILED! I WAS ALWAYS TOO AGGRESSIVE, TOO DOMINATING --- I MADE MEN FEEL INFERIOR** INSTEAD OF BUILDING UP

THEIR MASCULINE EGOS! MEN ALWAYS GO FOR THE HELPLESS, **CLINGING VINE** TYPE--AND THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M GOING TO BE FROM NOW ON!



"I wasted no time! The very next day, I moved to an apartment house where no one knew my occupation! I began wearing more frilly, feminine clothes-- and I met the man of my dreams!"

HE... HE'S SO **HANDSOME!** HE'S THE ONE I'LL TRY MY NEW APPROACH ON --- AND IT'S GOT TO WORK!



"After discreet inquiries and a week's observation, I learned that his name was **GENE TAYLOR**, that he was unmarried-- and that he always came home from work at six! So, one evening..."

OH, I... I CAN'T OPEN THE DOOR-- I'M DROPPING EVERYTHING!

HERE, LET ME HELP YOU, MISS!



I... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, MR. ... ER...

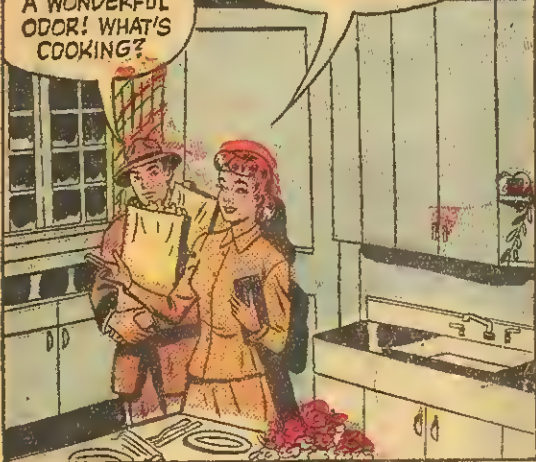
TAYLOR'S THE NAME -- **GENE TAYLOR!** BUT DON'T TRY THANKING ME--IT WAS A **PLEASURE** TO HELP SOMEONE AS BEAUTIFUL--AND AS **SWEETLY HELPLESS** AS YOU!





HERE YOU ARE---  
I'LL JUST LEAVE  
THESE BUNDLES  
HERE AND ---  
MMM, THAT'S  
A WONDERFUL  
ODOR! WHAT'S  
COOKING?

WHY DON'T YOU STAY AND  
FIND OUT, MR. TAYLOR? IT'S  
THE **LEAST** I COULD DO  
TO REPAY YOU FOR  
YOUR KINDNESS!



"It **WORKED!** And all during the meal,  
I played up his manliness and my weak  
helplessness for all it was worth!"

MY--YOU REALLY  
STOWED THAT  
MEAL AWAY---  
YOU'VE GOT THE  
APPETITE OF A  
**REAL MAN!**

YOUR DELICIOUS COOKING  
CERTAINLY HELPED! BUT  
SAY---YOU'VE BEEN EATING  
LIKE A **BIRD!** A BIG,  
STRONG-LOOKING GIRL  
LIKE YOU NEEDS MORE  
NOURISHMENT  
THAN **THAT!**



OH, I'M NOT REALLY  
AS TALL OR STRONG  
AS I SEEM TO BE!  
--HERE, WOULD YOU  
MIND PUTTING THIS  
HEAVY PRESSURE-  
COOKER AWAY ON  
THAT MIDDLE SHELF?  
I--I DON'T THINK  
I COULD  
MAKE IT!

**SURE!** NOW THAT  
I REMEMBER ALL THE  
TROUBLE YOU HAD  
WITH THOSE PACKAGES,  
I SEE THAT YOUR  
APPEARANCE IS REALLY  
DECEIVING -- THE ONLY  
THING YOU'RE **NOT**  
HELPLESS AT IS  
COOKING A  
WONDERFUL  
MEAL!



"Then, when I looked up at him with my  
most demure, clinging-vine expression..."

YOU... YOU'RE SWEET... **LINDA!**  
HOW ABOUT LETTING THE NEXT  
MEAL BE ON **ME** -- AT DINNER  
TOMORROW?

I... I'D  
**LOVE TO...**  
**GENE!**



"Glorious days slid by into rapturous  
weeks, and through it all, I played  
the part of the weak, helpless  
female to perfection--unable to  
hit a golf ball, draw a bowstring back  
or ride a horse! Yes, the only thing  
I **COULD** do was fall deeper in love  
with the man who had captured  
my heart!"



"And then came that  
magic night when I  
learned about love and  
kisses **FIRST-HAND!**  
This was no rear-view  
mirror, but I--**LINDY**  
**JACKSON**--with the  
man of my dreams! And  
his lips told me that my  
day had come at last--"

LINDA ---  
**DARLING!**

OH, GENE ---  
I **LOVE**  
YOU **SO!**



BEING MARRIED TO YOU  
WILL BE **HEAVEN**,  
DEAREST-- WE'LL BE THE  
HAPPIEST MARRIED  
COUPLE IN  
THE WORLD!

**HUH?**  
**M-MARRIED?**  
I-I NEVER SAID  
ANYTHING ABOUT  
**THAT, LINDA!**





YOU'RE SWEET AND LOVELY, AND I'VE ENJOYED DATING YOU --- BUT YOU... YOU'RE NOT QUITE THE KIND OF GIRL I'D WANT TO **MARRY!** YOU SEE, I'M A PRIVATE DETECTIVE, AND I'D HAVE TO HAVE A WIFE WHO'S AS SELF-RELIANT AS I AM --- WHO WOULDN'T BE AFRAID TO SHARE MY DANGERS WITH ME, AND WHO WOULDN'T BE TOO WEAK AND HELPLESS TO TAKE CARE OF HERSELF IN CASE ANY OF THE HOODLUMS I'M AFTER TRIED TO STRIKE BACK AT ME THROUGH **HER!**

BUT  
I...I...

**YOU'RE** THE HELPLESS, CLINGING-VINE TYPE --- I WOULDN'T DARE ASK YOU TO SHARE MY LIFE OF DANGER BY MARRYING ME! AND SPEAKING OF DANGER, I MAY HAVE MY FILL OF IT TOMORROW ON THAT HOT CASE I'M ON --- I'D BETTER GET SOME SLEEP! GOOD-NIGHT, LINDA!

AND I... I DON'T **DARE** TELL HIM THAT I'M **NOT** THE CLINGING-VINE TYPE... THAT I'M **EXACTLY** THE GIRL HE'S LOOKING FOR! HE'D NEVER BELIEVE ME --- HE'D JUST THINK I WAS HANDING HIM A LINE! OH, GENE... **GENE!**

"I tossed and turned that night in a torment of despair! All the men I **HADN'T** cared about had rejected me because I **WASN'T** a clinging vine --- and the only man in the world I could ever love had thrown my love back at me because he thought I **WAS!** I had to show him I was **MEANT** for him... I **HAD** to!"

I'VE GOT TO **PROVE** TO HIM THAT I'D BE THE PERFECT WIFE FOR A PRIVATE DETECTIVE -- BUT HOW--HOW? WAIT-- I'VE GOT IT! HE SAID HE'S ON A DANGEROUS CASE -- MAYBE IF I FOLLOWED HIM IN MY CAB TOMORROW, I MIGHT BE OF **USE** TO HIM!

"The next day, I found my heart pounding with excitement as I followed Gene's car into a dingy slum area ---"

HE'S PULLING UP TO THAT HOUSE --- I'D BETTER KEEP DRIVING AROUND THE BLOCK SO HE DOESN'T SUSPECT I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING HIM! OH, GENE, GENE -- **PLEASE DON'T GET HURT!**

"I returned -- to a shocking scene!"

**BLAST HIM DOWN ---** HE'LL NEVER TAKE **US!**

HE'S HIT, BUT WE CAN'T WAIT TO FINISH 'IM OFF--THE SHOTS WILL BRING THE COPS RUNNIN'! LET'S BEAT IT IN THE CAR --- **FAST!**

**BANG! BANG!**

"Icy tentacles of fear ran shudderingly through my body as I drove straight into that hail of lead, but I **HAD** to do it--to prove to **MYSELF** that I was worthy of being Gene's wife!"

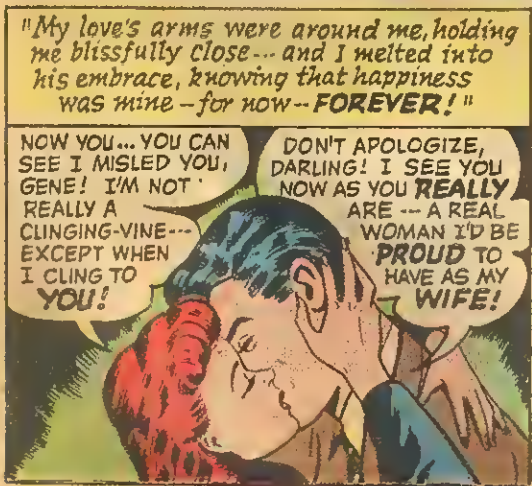
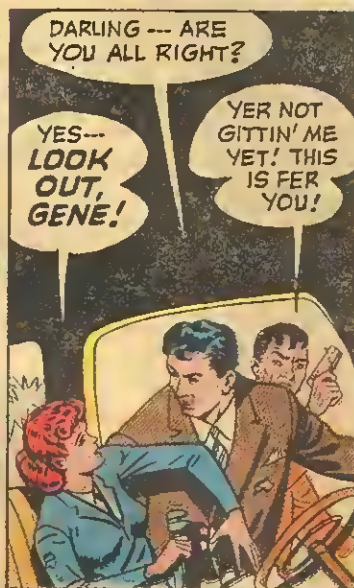
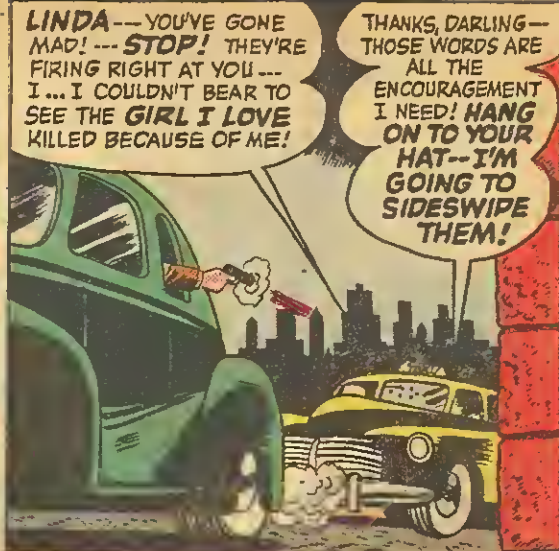
BLAST IT---THEY HIT MY TIRE! BUT MAYBE I CAN STILL CATCH UP TO THEM -- **TAXI!**

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY, DARLING --- "**FOLLOW THAT CAR!**"

LINDA--  
**YOU!**

**TAXI**







# How HE PROPOSED

THERE ARE MANY WAYS FOR A MAN TO PROPOSE --- AND **THIS** IS THE METHOD REVEALED BY MARY BETH WATSON OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA!

JOHN HUNTER NEVER SEEMED ABLE TO WORK UP THE COURAGE TO **PROPOSE** --- AND I HAD THE FUNNY FEELING THAT IF HE EVER **DID** POP THE QUESTION, IT WOULDN'T BE IN THE ORDINARY MANNER --- BUT IN SOME WAY **GUARANTEED** TO SUCCEED!

HELLO, DARLING --- THIS IS **JOHN**! I JUST CALLED TO TELL YOU I LOVE YOU!

OH, YOU ADORABLE FOOL --- IT'S **SWEET** OF YOU TO THINK OF ME THIS WAY! BUT IT IS RATHER LATE --- SO GOOD-NIGHT, DARLING!

FINALLY, TOWARDS DAWN, WHEN MY PATIENCE HAD BEEN WORN TO A FRAZZLED EDGE ---

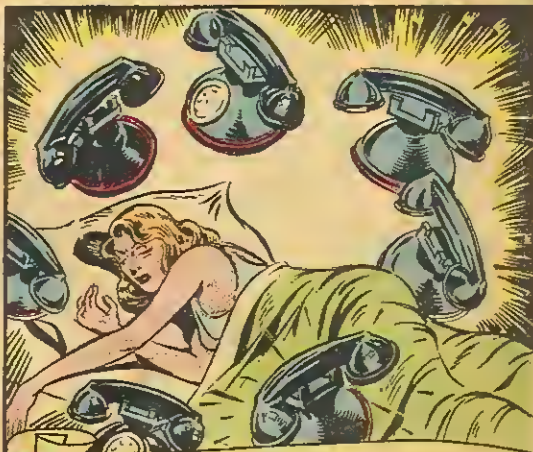
JOHN, YOU'VE GOT TO STOP THIS NONSENSE! I --- I'M SO BLEARY-EYED AND TIRED, I'D DO **ANYTHING** FOR AN HOUR'S UNINTERRUPTED SLEEP!

**ANYTHING?** THEN HOW ABOUT AGREEING TO **MARRY** ME?

ONE NIGHT, AFTER I HAD BEGUN TO THINK I WOULD NEVER HEAR A PROPOSAL FROM HIM ---

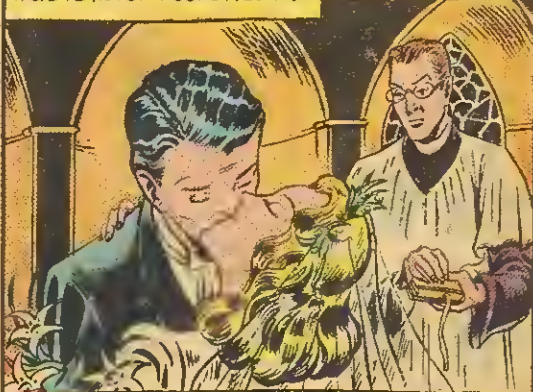
IT'S AFTER MID-NIGHT --- WHO CAN THAT BE?

RR-RING!



BUT I **DIDN'T** THINK IT WAS SO SWEET WHEN HE KEPT CALLING ME UP TO TELL ME HE LOVED ME --- HOUR AFTER HOUR, ALL NIGHT LONG!

WHAT COULD I DO BUT SAY **YES?** AND BELIEVE ME, I'VE NEVER REGRETTED IT!



THAT'S HOW **JOHN HUNTER** POPPED THE QUESTION TO **MARY BETH WATSON**! AND NOW, HOW ABOUT WRITING TO TELL US HOW THE MAN IN YOUR LIFE PROPOSED TO YOU?



# Are you LISTENIN'?

MARJORIE'S first moment of fear came the instant she accepted the invitation to Joan's sweet sixteen party. She *couldn't* refuse! She and Joan were best friends. And yet, Marjorie dreaded the party as though it offered some terrible threat.

"What'll I say? What'll I talk about?" she asked herself anxiously as she walked the block to Joan's house, noting the brightly lit windows, the dancing figures of boys and girls.

For Marjorie was desperately, painfully shy. When other girls giggled or laughed heartily, following up a clever remark with an even cleverer one, she longed with all her heart to do the same. Instead, however, she seemed to freeze inside, and her tongue seemed to stick to the roof of her mouth.

"Hi, Marge, you look scrumptious!" Joan greeted her happily. In a quieter voice, she added, "Bill Drake's here!"

Marjorie's eyes widened. Bill Drake. He was...well...plain wonderful! He was the kind of boy Marjorie wanted so much to go out with, to have good times with. In fact, he *was* the boy! If only...if only...

It was almost as though wishful thinking had done the trick. Coming through the crowd, directly towards her, was Bill Drake. And he was smiling at her!

Marjorie's great moment of panic came the instant she realized that Bill Drake meant to talk to her. "Hi," he said, seating himself beside her. When she returned his greeting, her own voice seemed strange and far-away.

Bill didn't seem to notice her panic at all. Blithely, he plung-

ed into an account of the latest club meeting. "It was an election meeting, you know," he was saying, "and there was some pretty tough competition for the presidency. I was running for president against Chubby Marks."

Marjorie knew she was expected to say something, but she could not think of anything flattering or funny. Instead, she managed to gulp, "You were?"

"We had a campaign and everything," Bill continued. "And when the ballots were cast..."

Bill's story lasted for a half-hour, during which time Marjorie found herself saying dumb things like "Honestly?" or "Really?" or "How interesting!"

"And when the votes were finally counted," Bill finished up, "we had a tied score and Chubby and I are going to be alternate presidents!"

To her intense astonishment, Marjorie found herself laughing quite easily as Bill brought his story to a close. If only she could think of a story to tell Bill, an even funnier one! After all, she had said almost nothing all this time. Bill must be thinking how dull she was.

But Bill had quite another thought. "You know something?" he said. "I never realized it before, but you're a terrific conversationalist! Are you, by any chance, dating anybody in town steadily?"

Happily, Marjorie shook her head. She hadn't spoken well, but she had *listened* beautifully...and that seemed to be absolutely okay with Bill Drake!



# Courageous HEART



**LORA MORELLI, QUEEN OF THE BIG TOP!** THAT WAS I, AND I GLORIED IN IT! FOR I WAS STRONG AND UNAFRAID, EXULTING IN MY MASTERY OVER THE WILD BEASTS OF THE JUNGLE! THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING I DESPISED... **WEAKNESS**... AND ONLY ONE THING I LACKED... **LOVE!**

"**LAPPLAUSE AND ADMIRATION WERE MINE... YET WHY DID I FEEL A PANG OF JEALOUSY BEFORE THE SOFT FEMININITY OF CLARABELLE, THE CIRCUS'S BARBACK RIDER?**"

THOSE MEN -- FLUTTERING AROUND HER LIKE MOTHS! THERE ISN'T ONE OF THEM WORTHY OF **MY LOVE!**



WHY SHOULD SHE MAKE ME FEEL THE WAY I DO? ISN'T IT ENOUGH THAT I'M **FAMOUS**? IT... IT CAN'T BE THAT I'M LONGING FOR KISSES AND **ROMANCE**... LIKE **OTHER GIRLS!**



"**NO... THAT WOULD BE WEAKNESS!**" AND LORA MORELLI WAS **STRONG!**

I MUSTN'T FORGET WHAT DAD TAUGHT ME! "**FEARLESSNESS IS WHAT COUNTS! IN THE CASE OF IN LIFE... THE WORLD IS FOR THE STRONG!**"... WELL, BETTER BE GOING! TOM BRITTON'S WAITING TO PAINT MY PORTRAIT FOR THE NEW CIRCUS POSTER!





LORA---I'VE  
BEEN WAITING!  
BUT IT'S WORTH  
IT---YOU'RE  
**BEAUTIFUL!**

GLAD YOU THINK SO, TOM!  
YOU'VE ALWAYS GOTTEN IT  
INTO YOUR PICTURES OF  
ME---AND THEY'VE HELPED  
SPREAD MY FAME!

"TOM'S ADMIRATION  
LIT A SMALL GLOW  
IN MY HEART---  
BUT QUICKLY, I  
SHUFFED IT OUT!  
WHAT WAS HE BUT  
A BIG TOP ARTIST,  
A WEAK  
DREAMER? THERE  
WAS NO ROOM IN MY  
LIFE FOR HIM! I  
WATCHED HIM AS HE  
SKETCHED  
EAGERLY---"

ALMOST FINISHED NOW  
---AND IT'S A **DARB!**  
LORA---IT'S BECAUSE  
I BRING---**LOVE** TO  
MY WORK!

SKIP IT, NUH? LET'S  
KEEP THINGS STRICTLY  
BUSINESS---I'VE GOT  
NO PATIENCE FOR  
THAT TYPE OF  
NONSENSE!

IS IT  
NONSENSE TO  
BE HEAD-OVER-HEELS  
ABOUT YOU? YOU'RE  
LOVELY NOW---BUT  
YOU'D BE **RAVISHING**  
IF SOMEONE COULD  
AWAKEN THAT **HEART**  
OF YOURS!

HOW **DARE** YOU SAY  
THINGS LIKE THAT TO ME?  
ONE MORE WORD OF IT AND  
I---I'LL NEVER COME NEAR  
YOU AGAIN!

OH PLEASE, LORRIE---  
LET'S NOT QUARREL!  
HONEST, I'LL BE GOOD!  
YOU'RE TIRED, SO WHY NOT  
LET'S HAVE SOME FUN?  
WE'LL GO OUT AND MINGLE  
WITH THE CROWDS---AS IF  
WE WERE TWO KIDS COME  
TO THE CIRCUS!

IT SOUNDS  
**SILLY**---  
BUT---

"**WHY** DID I GIVE IN? I DON'T  
KNOW---BUT IT **WAS** FUN!"

I CAN'T HELP IT, BUT I LOVE  
THE CIRCUS---THE MAKE-  
BELIEVE OF IT---

**STEP RIGHT UP,  
FOLKS---SEE THE  
WONDER OF  
WONDERS---**

TOM, YOU'RE AN INCURABLE DREAMER---AND A  
**CHILD!** THERE'S NO MAKE-BELIEVE IN THE  
CAGE WITH THE CATS---**THEY'RE REAL!**  
BUT THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH YOU! YOU'RE  
**AFRAID OF REAL DANGER**---AND  
THAT'S WHAT LIFE IS!



"DANCING, LATER, I FOUND A SURPRISING, BUT TENDER MAGIC IN TOM'S ARMS! THIS WAS WEAKNESS... THIS I MUST SHUN!"

IT'S WONDERFUL DANCING WITH YOU, LORA! YOU... YOU'VE GOT THE GRACE OF YOUR JUNGLE CATS!

ER... WHICH REMINDS ME... I ALWAYS CHECK UP ON THEM AROUND THIS TIME EVERY NIGHT! WE'D BETTER GO... PRONTO!



TOM! THAT CAGE DOOR... IT'S OPEN!

L-LORA! TH-THOSE YELLOW EYES STARING AT US... FROM OUT OF THE BUSH...



ULP!

DON'T ACT SCARED, YOU FOOL... OR YOU'RE LOST! ...BACK, REX, BACK! DO YOU HEAR?



I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU GOT OUT... BUT BACK YOU GO!... THERE!

I... I CAN'T LOOK! SUPPOSE SOMETHING... WERE TO HAPPEN TO HER?



IT'S ALL OVER! BUT LOOK AT YOU... SPINELESS... WEAK! DO YOU CALL YOURSELF A MAN?

WOULDN'T... ANYONE BE AFRAID OF A LION? BESIDES, I'VE GOT MY OWN KIND OF STRENGTH, LORA... AND IT'S SOMETHING YOU NEED!



"I HADN'T EXPECTED WHAT HAPPENED THEN! SUDDENLY HE SEIZED ME... AND A TREMOR SHOOK ME AS HIS LIPS PRESSED URGENTLY TO MINE!"

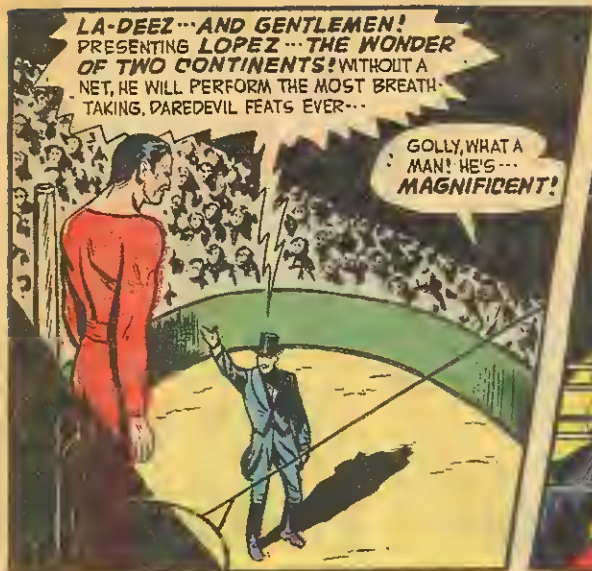
SOMETHING YOU NEED... SOMETHING I COULD GIVE YOU IF YOU LET ME! LOVE!

TOM! STOP...



"IT WAS RIDICULOUS! THERE WAS NOTHING HE COULD GIVE ME... FOR I COULDN'T EVER LOVE A COWARD! THAT'S WHY I AVOIDED TOM BRITTON AFTER THAT... WONDERING AT THE CURIOUS EMPTINESS WHICH LURKED IN MY HEART! BUT THEN I SAW LOPEZ, THE NEW TIGHT-ROPE WALKER... AND ALL THOUGHTS OF EMPTINESS VANISHED!"





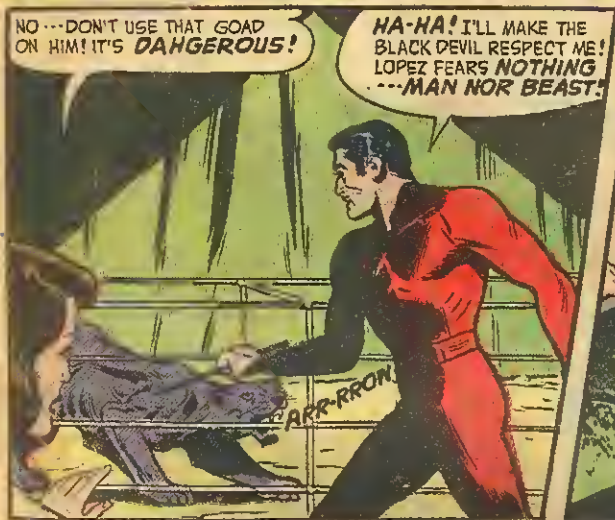
LA-DEEZ...AND GENTLEMEN!  
PRESENTING LOPEZ...THE WONDER  
OF TWO CONTINENTS! WITHOUT A  
NET, HE WILL PERFORM THE MOST BREATH-  
TAKING, DAREDEVIL FEATS EVER...

GOLLY, WHAT A  
MAN! HE'S...  
MAGNIFICENT!

"I OUTDID MYSELF IN THE CAGE THAT DAY--HOPING THE  
NEWCOMER MIGHT NOTICE ME..."

I COULDN'T TAKE MY  
EYES OFF YOU FOR A  
SECOND, MISS MORELL!  
YOUR PERFORMANCE WAS  
GREAT!

THANKS, LOPEZ!  
COMING FROM YOU,  
THAT'S... SATAN!  
BACK!



NO...DON'T USE THAT GOAD  
ON HIM! IT'S DANGEROUS!

HA-HA! I'LL MAKE THE  
BLACK DEVIL RESPECT ME!  
LOPEZ FEARS NOTHING  
...MAN NOR BEAST!

"THIS WAS A MAN...AND FROM THAT MOMENT ON,  
I WAS IN LOVE WITH HIM! I WAS FASCINATED BY HIS  
DARING, HIS GALLANTRY...BY THE FERVOR OF HIS  
KISSES..."

IT'S...WONDERFUL  
BEING WITH YOU! BUT  
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS  
PREFER HIGH  
PLACES?

I DO...AND YOU WILL!  
WE BELONG TO THE  
HEIGHTS, LORA! KING  
AND QUEEN OF THE  
BIG TOP... THAT'S  
US!



AND YOU'RE...  
QUEEN OF MY  
HEART! YOU'RE  
EVERYTHING A MAN  
DREAMS OF...

DEAREST...



The next week...

WE'LL GO  
PLACES, YOU  
AND I...  
DEPEND  
ON IT!

I DIDN'T  
MEAN TO  
INTRUDE... BUT  
I'D LIKE YOU TO  
POSE FOR SOME  
NEW POSTERS,  
LORA!



STRANGE...YOU'RE  
LOOKING MORE  
RADIANT THAN EVER.  
BUT THERE'S SOME-  
THING INSIDE  
THAT'S GONE!

THAT'S  
JEALOUSY  
SPEAKING...  
AND IT'S JUST  
FUNNY! WHY,  
NEXT TO LOPEZ,  
YOU'RE JUST A  
MOUSE!



A MOUSE, AM I? MAYBE... BUT I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE LIKE **THAT** TIGHT-ROPE ROMEO FOR A MILLION DOLLARS!

HE'S THE MAN I LOVE... AND I'M GOING TO HIM NOW!

MY HEART BEAT FASTER, FASTER, AS I APPROACHED HIS TENT... AND THEN... THE SHOCK OF MY LIFE!

HE'S THERE, BUT... THERE'S A WOMAN IN HIS ARMS!

"I COULDN'T RESTRAIN THE HEART-BROKEN WORDS THAT TUMBLED FROM MY LIPS..."

YOU... YOU **TRAITOR!** SO YOU'RE TWO-TIMING ME... WITH THAT STUPID LITTLE FLIRT CLARABELLE!

**LORA!** YOU... YOU'VE GOT TO LET ME **EXPLAIN!**

EXPLAIN WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO MY TRUST, MY FAITH IN YOU? WHAT CAN YOU **EVER** TELL ME TO SET THINGS RIGHT AGAIN?

IT... IT WAS A MOMENT OF WEAKNESS... SHE PRACTICALLY **FORCED** ME INTO IT! BUT SHE MEANS NOTHING TO ME... IT'S **YOU** I LOVE, I SWEAR IT! PLEASE... **FORGIVE ME!**

"**B** WHO THOUGHT I WAS STRONG... I GAVE IN LIKE A WEAKLING BEFORE HIS INTENSE MAGNETISM! BUT I WATCHED HIS EVERY MOVEMENT AFTER THAT..."

**HA-HA!** DON'T LIKE ME JUMPING ONTO YOUR CAGE, DO YOU, YOU BRUTE? GO AHEAD, SNARL... **SNARL!**

PLEASE, DEAR... DON'T EVER DO THAT AGAIN! I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO MAKE THOSE ANIMALS EXCITED BEFORE I GO INTO THE BIG CAGE WITH THEM! IT'S **DANGEROUS!**

WHY, OF **COURSE**, DARLING! I WOULDN'T ENDANGER **YOU** FOR THE WORLD!



"BUT NEXT NIGHT, BEFORE MY PERFORMANCE, IT HAPPENED AGAIN! WHY WAS HE ATTEMPTING TO ENRAGE SATAN THAT WAY? IT COULDN'T BE DELIBERATE... HE CARED TOO MUCH FOR ME!"



PLEASE EXCUSE ME, LORA... IT WAS AN ACCIDENT AGAIN! YOU SEE, I'M TOO DISTRACTED BY THOUGHTS OF YOU... I'M GETTING CLUMSY!



"BUT THE DAMAGE HAD BEEN DONE! SATAN WAS A DEVIL OF MALIGNANT RAGE... AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, I KNEW THE STIRRINGS OF FEAR!"

BACK, SATAN... BACK!... HE... HE'S NEVER DISOBEYED ME BEFORE!



"IN THE DISTANCE, I CAUGHT SIGHT OF LOPEZ TENDERLY LIFTING CLARABELLE... AND THAT DID IT! YES, I LOST MY CONTROL... AND ONLY SWUNG MY HEAD BACK TOWARDS SATAN IN TIME TO SEE..."

SATAN! GET BACK! KEEP AWAY FROM ME!



"BUT NEXT MOMENT..."

HE... MEANS IT... HE'S TRYING TO KILL ME!... HELP! HELP!



"I KNEW THE HORROR OF CLAWS AND RENDING TEETH! THERE WERE SHOUTS, GUNSHOTS... AS I SANK INTO THE ABYSS OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS!"

WE'VE GOT 'EM UNDER CONTROL! SEE IF THE GIRL'S STILL ALIVE!



"I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THE BLACK AGONY LASTED, WITH NIGHTMARE CATS HAUNTING MY DREAMS! SLOWLY, SLOWLY I CAME TO... TO THE SIGHT OF A MAN AT MY BEDSIDE! WHY WASN'T IT... LOPEZ?"

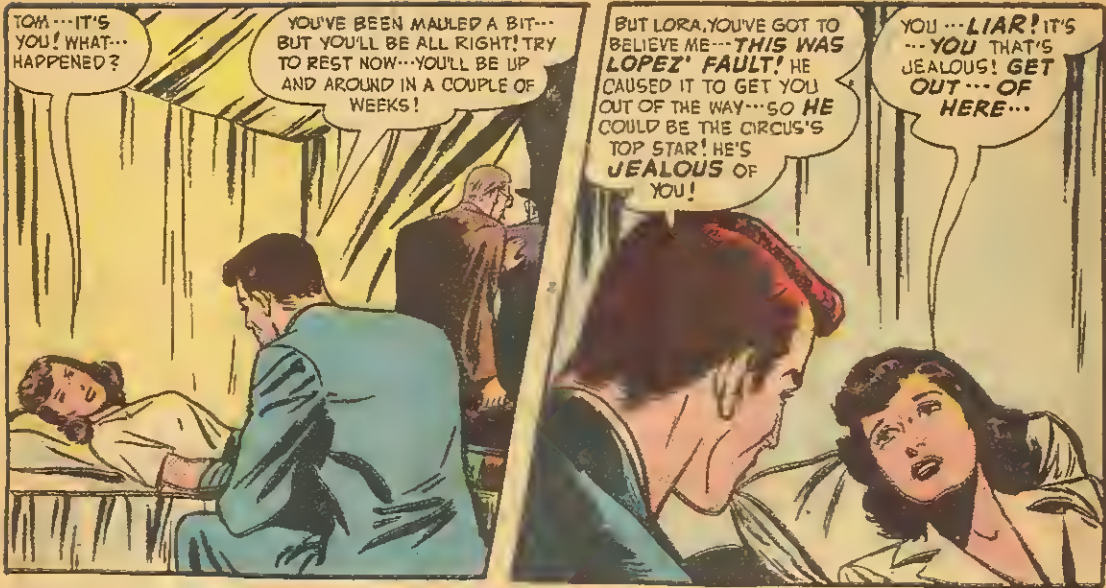


TOM...IT'S YOU! WHAT...HAPPENED?

YOU'VE BEEN MAULED A BIT... BUT YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT! TRY TO REST NOW...YOU'LL BE UP AND AROUND IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS!

BUT LORA, YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME...**THIS WAS LOPEZ' FAULT!** HE CAUSED IT TO GET YOU OUT OF THE WAY...SO HE COULD BE THE CIRCUS'S TOP STAR! HE'S **JEALOUS** OF YOU!

YOU...**LIAR!** IT'S...**YOU** THAT'S JEALOUS! **GET OUT... OF HERE...**



"**IT MUST HAVE BEEN WEARY DAYS LATER THAT...**"

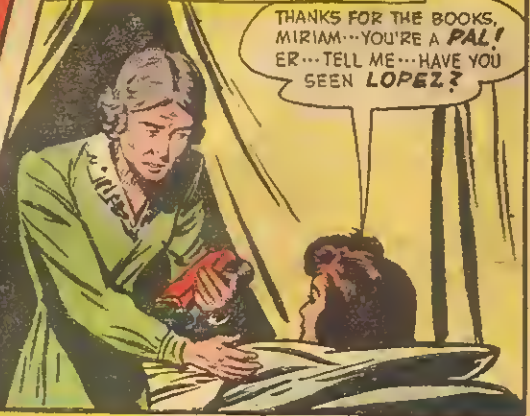
SO YOU'VE FINALLY COME! IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD, TEARING YOURSELF AWAY FROM CLARABELLE...

YOU'RE NOT BEING FAIR TO ME! MAYBE APPEARANCES ARE AGAINST ME... BUT YOU **KNOW** I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU!



"**HE DIDN'T RETURN TO VISIT ME! I TRIED HARD TO CONVINCE MYSELF THAT HE WASN'T FALSE, THAT I WASN'T AN UTTER FOOL TO LOVE HIM...**"

THANKS FOR THE BOOKS, MIRIAM...YOU'RE A **PAL!** ER...TELL ME...HAVE YOU SEEN **LOPEZ?**



OKAY, KID...I DIDN'T WANT TO BE THE ONE TO TELL YOU, BUT HERE IT COMES! THAT GUY MAY HAVE HAD A SONG AND DANCE FOR YOU...BUT HIS HEART'S BELONGED TO **CLARABELLE** SINCE THE FIRST DAY HE GOT HERE!

**OH-HH!**



"**IT WAS THE END OF THE WORLD! LORA MORELLI, QUEEN OF THE BIG TOP...LORA, THE STRONG...WHERE WAS HER GLORY NOW? THERE WAS LEFT NOTHING BUT TEARS...HEARTBREAK!**"

EVERYONE FALSE...LOPEZ...MY OWN ANIMALS! I...I'M EVEN AFRAID TO FACE THEM AGAIN...THERE'S NOTHING LEFT FOR ME!



"**NO** BODY HEALED...BUT MY SPIRIT DIDN'T! I STILL FEARED TO ENTER THE CAGE, AND KNEW THAT I HAD TO DO SOMETHING! PERHAPS IF TOM WERE TO DO A SPIRITED NEW POSTER OF LORA MORELLI, IT MIGHT AWAKEN MY SAGGING SPIRITS! BUT OUTSIDE HIS ROOM, I HEARD VOICES..."







I WANT THIS ONE CAPTIONED **LOPEZ, KING OF THE CIRCUS!** I'M THE STAR HERE NOW, WITH LORA OUT OF THE RUNNING!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK! WHY, SHE'S WORTH A DOZEN OF YOU!



WHAT... STILL CARRYING THE TORCH FOR THAT HAS-BEEN... AFTER THE WAY SHE'S TREATED YOU? WHY, I... ULP! LORA!

I--- I'M GLAD I GOT HERE WHEN I DID!



MAYBE I AM A HAS-BEEN... THANKS TO YOU, YOU ROTTEN SCHEMER! YOU STIRRED UP THAT BLACK PANTHER SATAN **PURPOSELY**. DIDN'T YOU?

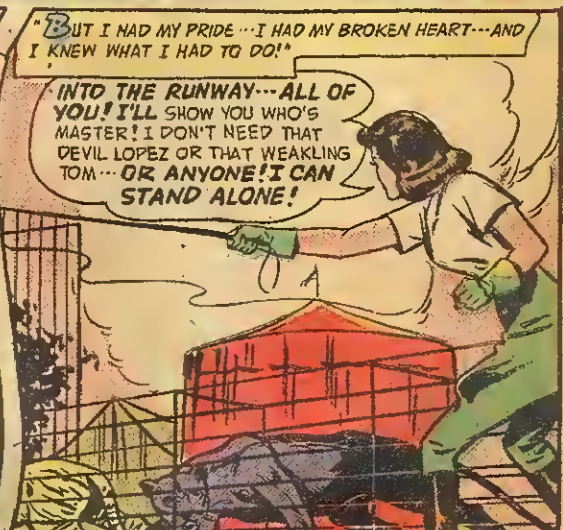
TRY PROVING IT, SWEET-HEART! ANYWAY, YOU'RE **FINISHED!** YOU CAN'T FACE THOSE CATS AND YOU KNOW IT!



"THE CHALLENGE WAS CAST! I HAD TO ACT... TO PROVE TO HIM... TO PROVE TO MYSELF!"

I CAN'T, EH? I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S AFRAID!

LORA... DON'T! KEEP AWAY FROM THOSE BEASTS... YOU'RE NOT WELL YET!



"BUT I HAD MY PRIDE... I HAD MY BROKEN HEART... AND I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO!"

INTO THE RUNWAY... ALL OF YOU! I'LL SHOW YOU WHO'S MASTER! I DON'T NEED THAT DEVIL LOPEZ OR THAT WEAKLING TOM... OR ANYONE! I CAN STAND ALONE!

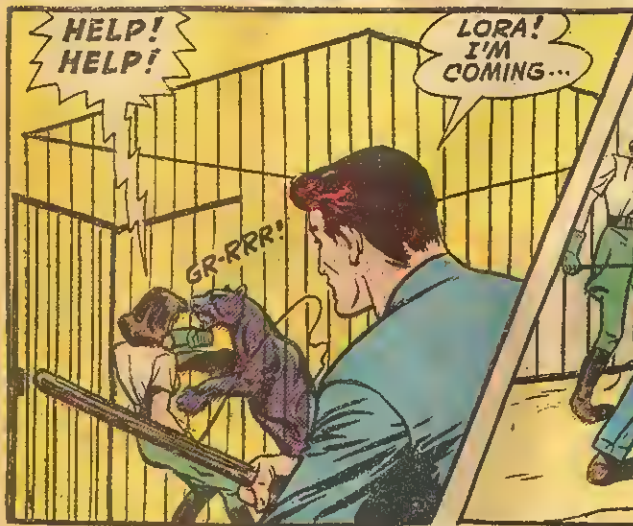
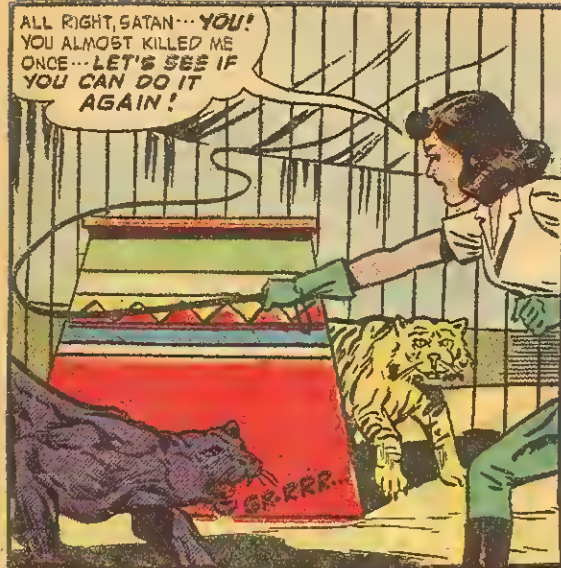


THERE! I--- I'M ALONE WITH THEM NOW... WITHOUT GUARDS... WITH NO ONE TO HELP! I'VE GOT TO FACE THEM... MYSELF!



WHAT'S SHE UP TO? I'M WORRIED... BETTER HIDE HERE AND WATCH!







I CAN SEE IT ALL NOW... I NEED YOU TOO! I'M AFRAID TO FACE THE CATS AGAIN... I NEED YOUR KIND OF STRENGTH... YOUR LOVE!

IT'S A LITTLE LATE FOR THAT NOW, ISN'T IT? IF I'M ONLY GOOD WHEN YOU'VE LOST YOUR COURAGE AND LOVE... I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF YOU!

"NOW I KNEW REAL GRIEF AND DESOLATION... AND THE PANG OF EMPTY DAYS... FOR I'D THROWN AWAY MY CHANCE FOR TRUE LOVE!"

I WAS PROUD, ARROGAHT... AND NOW THERE'S NOTHING LEFT! CAREER, ROMANCE... EVERYTHING GONE! I'VE... MADE A MESS OF EVERYTHING...

I'VE A MESSAGE FOR YOU, LORA... FROM TOM! HE'S LEAVING THE CIRCUS... AND ASKED ME TO SAY GOODBYE!

LEAVING... WITHOUT EVEN GIVING ME A CHANCE FOR FORGIVENESS? WELL... I GUESS THAT ENDS IT...



ENDS IT? ONLY IF YOU'RE COWARD ENOUGH TO GIVE IN! YOU'VE RIDICULED HIM, HURT HIS PRIDE... AND NOW YOU'RE FEELING SORRY FOR YOURSELF. YOU'RE READY TO CONCEDE DEFEAT... WITHOUT EVEN FIGHTING!

YOU MEAN... THERE'S SOMETHING I CAN DO?

YES... IF YOU'VE GOT COURAGE ENOUGH TO DO IT! YOU'VE GOT TO BE WILLING TO LEAVE THE CIRCUS AND THE CAREER YOU'VE BUILT! YOU'VE GOT TO GO TO HIM, HUMBLE YOURSELF, BEG HIS FORGIVENESS!

THERE'S... HOPE FOR ME, MIRIAM! FOR THE FIRST TIME... I FEEL MY NERVE COMING BACK!



"COULD THIS BE ME, LORA MORELLI, PROUD QUEEN OF THE BIG TOP... BEGGING FOR A CHANCE AT LIFE ITSELF?"

HONEY, I'VE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR THAT!

OH, TOM, TOM, I'VE NO PRIDE LEFT! ALL I HAVE IS MY WOMAN'S HEART... AND IT'S BEATING FOR YOU! IT'S TELLING ME WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN... AND WHAT A WONDERFUL GUY YOU ARE! PLEASE... GIVE ME A CHANCE!



"I GUESS THAT'S ALL THERE IS, READER! BEFORE US STRETCHED A LIFE OF SOFTLY GLOWING HAPPINESS! YES, IT WOULD BE LORA MORELLI, HOUSEWIFE, FROM NOW ON... BUT I'D HAVE LOVE... AND I WANTED NOTHING MORE!"



THE END!

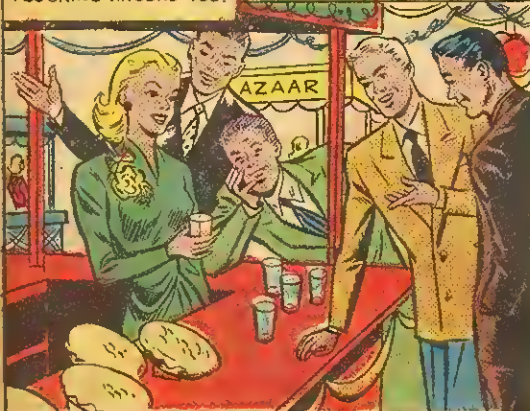


# Roadmap to ROMANCE

YOU'RE EAGERLY HOPING FOR THE MAN OF YOUR DREAMS TO COME INTO YOUR LIFE... BUT DON'T JUST SIT HOME AND WAIT FOR MR. RIGHT TO DISCOVER AND WOO YOU... OR YOU'LL WAIT IN VAIN! MOST MEN HAVE TO BE COAXED INTO TRAVELING ALONG THE MATRIMONIAL TRAIL... SO IF YOU WANT A MAN, YOU'LL HAVE TO GO OUT AND GET HIM! JUST MAKE AN INTELLIGENT PLAN OF ATTACK AND FOLLOW THE FEW TIPS IN THIS ROAD-MAP FOR ROMANCE... AND YOU'LL SOON REACH YOUR DESTINATION... MARRIAGE!



**F**IRST, EXHAUST ALL THE POSSIBILITIES FOR ROMANCE IN YOUR OWN HOME TOWN! JOIN COMMUNITY AND CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS, VOLUNTEER TO ORGANIZE BAZAARS AND FAIRS... AND YOU'LL SOON FIND THE ELIGIBLE YOUNG MEN BEING DRAWN BY YOUR LIVELINESS AND VIVACITY... AND FLOCKING AROUND YOU!



**I**F YOU'RE ATHLETICALLY INCLINED, TAKE LESSONS IN YOUR FAVORITE SPORT UNTIL YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD AT IT... AND THEN GO WHERE YOU CAN MEET MALE SPORT FANS! THERE'S SOMETHING IRRESISTIBLE ABOUT A GIRL IN WHITE TENNIS SHORTS, OR ONE WHO SWOOPS DOWN A SKI-SLOPE WITH FLUSHED CHEEKS AND SPARKLING EYES... AND THAT GIRL CAN BE YOU!

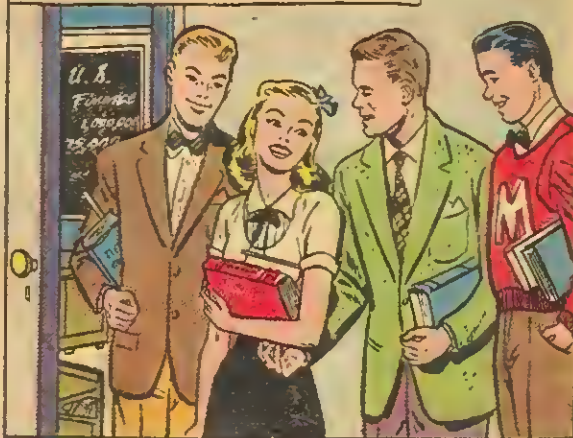




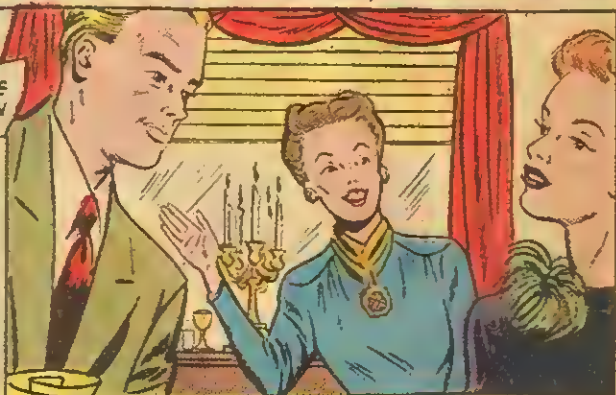
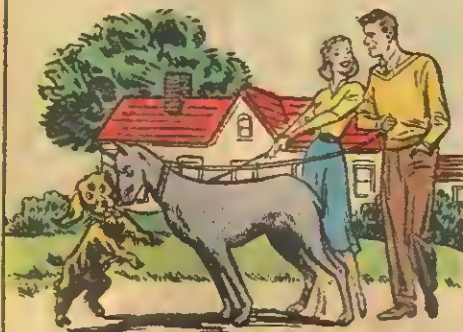
**D**EVELOP A HOBBY--PREFERABLY ONE THAT'S JUST A LITTLE TOO MUCH TROUBLE FOR THE AVERAGE INERT FEMALE, SO THAT YOU'LL HAVE THE MALE HOBBYISTS ALL TO YOURSELF! SOME GROUPS IN WHICH YOU'LL FIND MORE MEN THAN GIRLS ARE CAMERA CLUBS, HIKING ORGANIZATIONS AND STAMP-COLLECTING CLUBS--BUT YOU CAN'T JOIN THESE JUST BY SITTING HOME AND MOPING!



**S**O, IF YOUR INTERESTS ARE MORE OF THE INTELLECTUAL TYPE, WHY NOT TAKE A COURSE OR TWO AT NIGHT SCHOOL? YOU'LL FIND VERY FEW GIRLS THERE TO COMPETE WITH YOU...BUT PLENTY OF MEN TO ADMIRE YOU!



**I**F YOU LIKE DOGS OR OTHER PETS, BY ALL MEANS GET ONE...BECAUSE TWO PEOPLE WITH DOGS IMMEDIATELY HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON, AND CAN FIND A LOT TO TALK ABOUT! IF THE LOCAL BOY YOU'VE BEEN DYING TO MEET IS A DOG-LOVER, TOO, YOU CAN LET YOUR CANINES INTRODUCE YOU TO EACH OTHER!

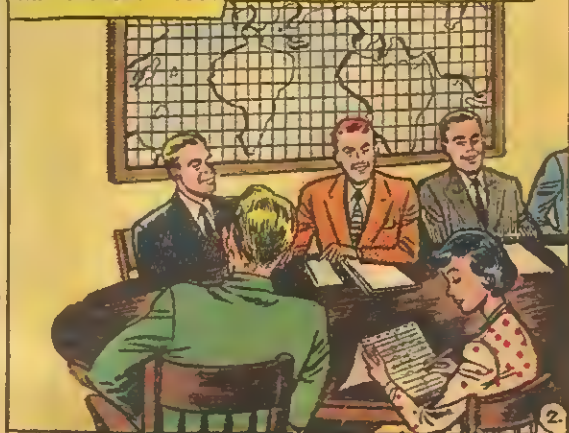


**Y**OUR MARRIED FRIENDS CAN ALSO COME IN HANDY--BECAUSE MARRIED WOMEN LOVE THE ROLE OF MATCH-MAKING, AND WILL BE ONLY TOO GLAD TO HELP IF YOU ASK THEM TO KEEP YOU IN MIND WHENEVER THEY NEED AN EXTRA GIRL TO ROUND OUT A PARTY OR A DINNER LIST!

**Y**OUR FRIENDS CAN ALSO BE USEFUL AS ARRANGERS OF BLIND DATES...AND IF THEY TAKE PAINS TO PAIR YOU OFF WITH SOMEONE THEY KNOW IS YOUR TYPE, THE BLIND DATE MAY WELL PROVE TO BE AN EYE-OPENER!



**I**F YOU'RE LUCKY, YOU MAY GET A JOB IN AN OFFICE WHERE THERE ARE ELIGIBLE SINGLE MEN--BUT DON'T LET YOUR HUSBAND-HUNTING INTERFERE WITH YOUR WORK, OR YOU'LL FIND YOURSELF WITHOUT A HUSBAND AND WITHOUT A JOB!



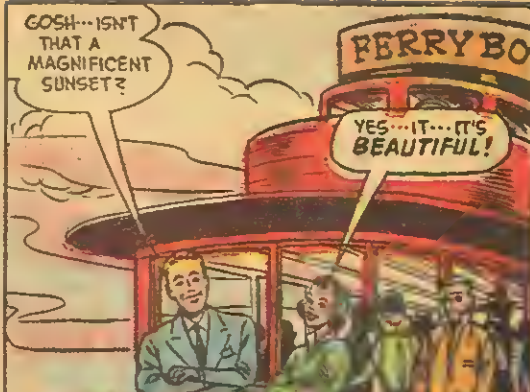


NEVER BE SO DESPERATELY ANXIOUS FOR A DATE THAT YOU SUCCEED TO THIS CRUDE TYPE OF PICKUP APPROACH...OR YOU'LL RUE THE DAY!



HIYA, BABE...  
WHERE'VE YOU  
BEEN ALL MY  
LIFE?

GOSH...ISNT  
THAT A  
MAGNIFICENT  
SUNSET?



YES...IT...IT'S  
BEAUTIFUL!

BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO BE FRIGHTENED OFF BY A PLEASANT-LOOKING YOUNG MAN WHO STRIKES UP A FRIENDLY CONVERSATION! OF COURSE, YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL AND ASK SOME DISCREET QUESTIONS...BUT ONCE YOU'RE SURE OF HIS CHARACTER, YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DIDN'T NIP A BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIP IN THE BUD!

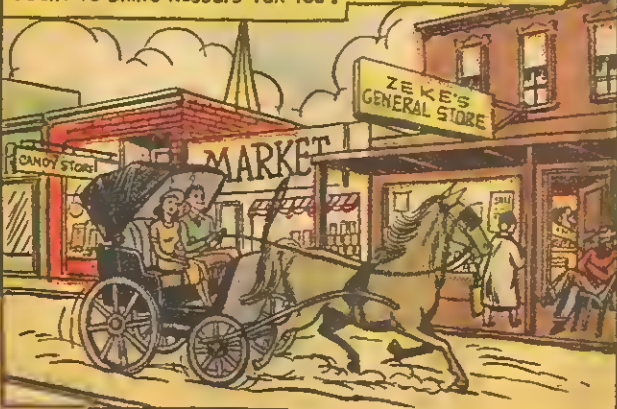


ONE OF THE BEST MATRIMONIAL POSSIBILITIES IS THE TORCH-CARRIER...THE MAN WHO'S JUST BEEN JILTED, AND WHO'S IN NEED OF AFFECTION AND SYMPATHY! IF YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THE GUY, AND YOU COME ALONG JUST WHEN HE NEEDS YOU MOST, HE'LL SOON BE CARRYING THE TORCH FOR YOU!

SUMMER RESORTS THAT ARE CROWDED WITH DESIGNING, HUSBAND-HUNTING GIRLS ARE PRETTY POOR BETS! EVERY GIRL THERE KNOWS WHAT EVERY OTHER GIRL IS LOOKING FOR...AND THE COMPETITION IS LIKELY TO BE BRUTAL!



INSTEAD OF SPENDING YOUR SAVINGS ON SOME EXPENSIVE RESORT, WHY NOT VISIT THOSE RELATIVES IN THAT SMALL, ONE-HORSE TOWN? A VISITING GIRL BRINGS NOVELTY...AND SHE'S LIKELY TO TAKE THE MOST PRIZED YOUNG MAN RIGHT AWAY FROM THE LOCAL BELLE! IF YOU LIKE LIVING IN A SMALL TOWN, THIS TECHNIQUE OUGHT TO BRING RESULTS FOR YOU!



STILL UNHARRIED? THEN GO WEST, YOUNG GIRL...GO WEST! IN MOST OF THE EASTERN STATES, THERE AREN'T ENOUGH MEN TO GO AROUND FOR ALL THE WOMEN, AND OLD MAIDS ARE ONLY TOO COMMON! BUT OUT WEST, IN STATES LIKE MONTANA, WYOMING AND WASHINGTON, THE MEN OUTNUMBER THE WOMEN BY FAR! SO LOOK IT UP IN YOUR WORLD ALMANAC, PICK YOUR STATE...AND GO GET YOUR MAN!

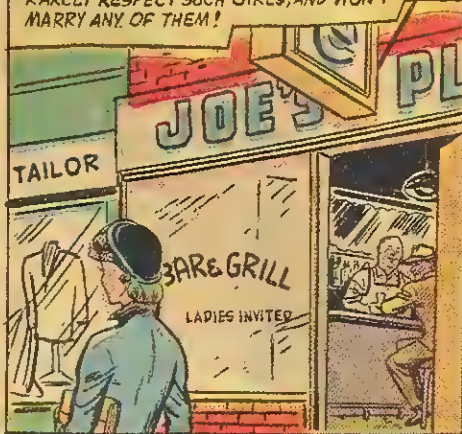




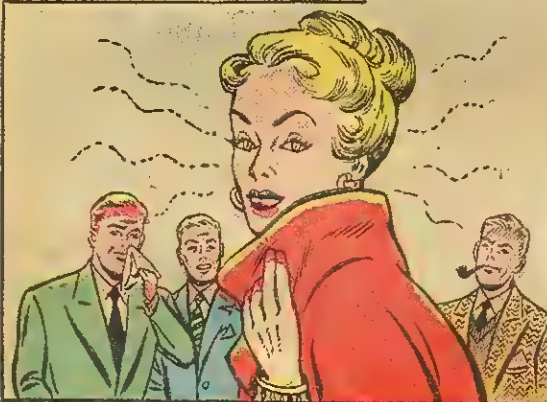
**THINKING OF GOING TO COLLEGE? THEN RUN, DON'T WALK, TO A UNIVERSITY IN THE WEST OR MID-WEST! THERE, YOU'LL FIND COMPETITION AT AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM...AND MEN WHO ARE THE CREAM OF THE COUNTRY'S CROP, WITH EXCELLENT FUTURES AHEAD OF THEM!**



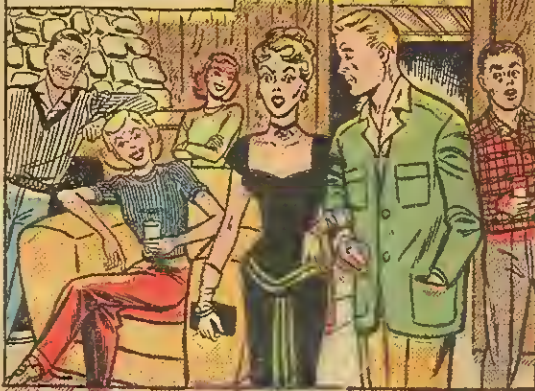
**BUT NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, STAY AWAY FROM BARS AND COCKTAIL LOUNGES! THE MEN WHO PICK UP GIRLS IN COCKTAIL BARS WILL BUY THEM DRINKS AND CHAT WITH THEM... BUT THEY RARELY RESPECT SUCH GIRLS, AND WON'T MARRY ANY OF THEM!**



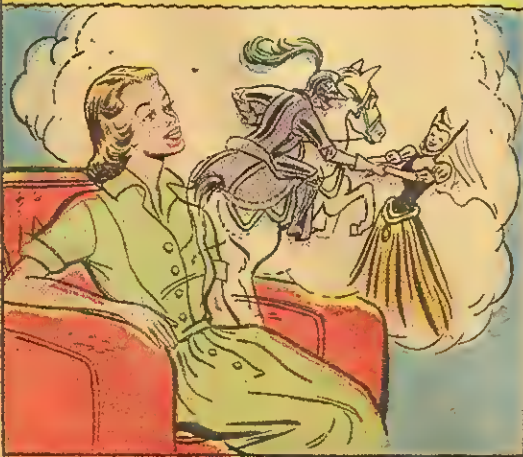
**AND WHEREVER YOU ARE, MAKE SURE YOU'RE WELL GROOMED AND DAINTY...AND NEVER, NEVER MAKE THE MISTAKE OF WEARING TOO MUCH MAKEUP OR A TOO HEAVY PERFUME...OR YOU'LL FIND THAT YOU'VE TAKEN A DETOUR ON THE ROAD TO ROMANCE!**



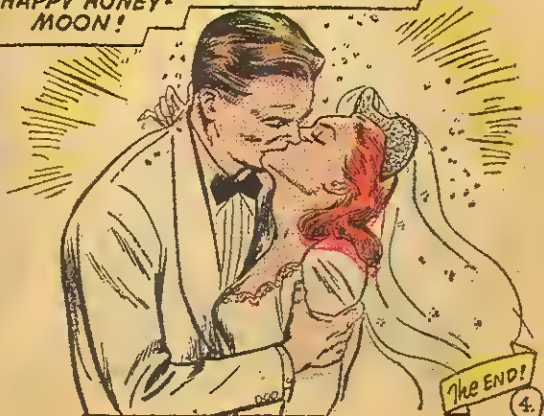
**ONCE YOU'VE GOTTEN YOUR MAN, ALWAYS BE APPROPRIATELY DRESSED...AND NEVER OVERDRESSED! WHEN A MAN ASKS A GIRL TO AN INFORMAL, CASUAL GATHERING AND SHE SHOWS UP IN AN ELABORATE PARTY DRESS, LOOKING MADE-UP TO KILL...SHE'S JUST KILLED HER CHANCE FOR ROMANCE!**



**SO, INSTEAD OF SITTING HOME AND DREAMING OF YOUR KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR GALLOPING UP AND CARRYING YOU OFF TO HIS ENCHANTED CASTLE...**



**...DON'T WAIT FOR YOUR MATE, BUT TRAVEL THE ROYAL ROAD TO ROMANCE BY GOING WHERE MEN ARE AND LETTING THEM KNOW YOU'RE ALIVE! FROM THEN ON, JUST LET NATURE TAKE ITS COURSE...AND HAVE A HAPPY HONEY-MOON!**



**THE END!**



Now you can be  
the queen  
of the rink!



**WHIRLABOUT**  
Scroll braid  
that glitters  
like gold on  
two-tone rayon  
faillé.

only **6<sup>98</sup>**

**Colors: WHIRLAWAY**

Grey with Red Sash and Silver Sequins  
Black with Red Sash and Gold Sequins  
Powder Blue with Royal Sash and Silver Sequins  
Sea Green with Aqua Sash and Gold Sequins

**Colors: WHIRLABOUT**

• Green with Beige top • Grey with Pink top  
• Black with Aqua top • Brown with Aqua top  
All with glittering gold braid

Junior Dress Sizes 7, 9, 11, 13, 15  
Misses Dress Sizes 10, 12, 14, 16

*Glamorous*  
**SKATING COSTUMES**

with **PRINCESS SEQUINS**  
and **GOLD BRAID**



You'll be the center of attraction, the envy of all... in these glamorous skating costumes. They're cut for full freedom of action along curve-hugging Princess lines, and move with you in exciting rhythm. Convenient back zipper for jiffy changing. You'll be the most courted queen of the rink... and for such a small price, too!

**WHIRLAWAY**  
Sparkling sequin trim on two-tone rayon faille.

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Please send Glamorous Skating Costumes as follows:

☐ I enclose payment. You pay postage. ☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postage.

	SIZE	1st COLOR CHOICE	2nd COLOR CHOICE
WHIRLAWAY \$6.98			
WHIRLABOUT \$6.98			

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

If not delighted, I may return in 10 days for full purchase price refund.



# SMALL BUST WOMEN

Special Design "Up-And-Out" Bra  
Gives You A Fuller, Alluring Bustline  
Instantly

COLORS:

- NUDE
- WHITE
- BLACK
- BLUE

**NO PADS!** NO ARTIFICIAL BUST BUILDUP NEEDED

Self conscious about your flat looking bustline? Figure Beauty starts with a glamorous bustline. The sensational "Up-And-Out" Bra has an exclusive secret patent pend. feature that tends to lift and cup flat, unshapely, small busts into a **FULLER, WELL-ROUNDED, EXCITING BUSTLINE** like magic instantly.

One of Our Many Satisfied Customers Below Says:

*"... It's amazing how its special feature gives my bustline real glamour."*

—Miss Doris Harris, Wichita, Kansas



**BEFORE** Miss Harris wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, she was flat, unshapely, and shy.

**AFTER** she wore the "Up-and-Out" Bra, her attractive bustline gave her poise, confidence.

**Now Wear All Dresses, Blouses, Sweaters, etc. (No matter how form fitting) With Bustline Confidence!**

With the "Up-And-Out" Bra underneath, all your clothes will display the sweater girl, feminine curves you desire and require to look attractive. Firm elastic back and easy to adjust shoulder straps. Beautiful fabric — easy to wash. Colors: Nude, White, Black. Sizes: 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38. Only \$2.49. Mail Coupon Now

**SEND NO MONEY!**

**10 DAY  
TRIAL COUPON**

Tested Sales, Dept. MR 45 B 1/2  
296 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.



**28  
to  
38**

## Profile View Of Hidden Feature in Bra

which does wonders for your individual bust problem.

Below are some types who can be helped.

Special patent pending bust molding feature on inside of bra lifts, supports and cups your busts. No Matter Whether They Are Small, Flat or Sagging, into Fuller, Well-Rounded "Up and Out" curves like magic instantly!



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Rush to me my "Up-And-Out" Bra in plain wrapper in size and color checked below. I will pay postman on delivery \$2.49 plus postage. If not delighted in 10 days, I will return merchandise for my money back.

Size \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_ How Many \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, Zone, State \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to save postage by enclosing \$2.49 with coupon. Same Money Back Guarantee.



For Boys - Girls - Hunters - Campers -  
Everybody!

# THE MOST AMAZING SUN WATCH IN THE WORLD!

JUST LOOK  
AT WHAT IT DOES!

TELZALL

9 IN 1

THE  
TIMEPIECE OF  
ADVENTURE!

**1. TELLS TIME**  
the truly scientific  
sun dial way

**2. WEATHER  
FORECASTER**  
secretly concealed,  
changes colors to  
predict weather

**3. GLOW-IN-THE-DARK  
COMPASS**  
tells directions day  
or night

**4. STRAP**  
is durable plas-  
tic 8" measure

**5. 6-POWER  
MAGNIFYING  
and burning glass,**  
secretly concealed

**6. WORLD'S SMALLEST  
BALL POINT PEN**  
writes thousands of  
words

**7. SIGNALLING DEVICE**  
on the back

**8. CONSTELLATIONS  
Chart** shows how to  
find the North Star

**9. MORSE CODE**  
engraved on the back

You'll be the envy of all your friends when you wear this sensational 9-way wonder—the amazing, patented new TELZALL SUN WATCH. It's the only watch of its kind in the world. This tickless time piece tells the sun time . . . nothing to go out of order.

The gracefully designed case of gleaming jeweler's bronze with durable red plastic 8" measuring strap looks like an expensive watch on your wrist. The weather forecaster and the magnifying and fire-starting glass are secretly concealed inside the case.

You'll marvel at the other fascinating features of this wonderful new invention. It may even save your life—with the Morse Code permanently engraved on the back, a glow-in-the-dark compass, signalling mirror, all right on your wrist in case of emergency! What fun, too, being able to predict the weather at a glance, measure objects, write with the world's smallest ball point pen, and locate the North Star and other constellations. Don't delay—rush your order today to be sure of prompt delivery.

**SEND NO MONEY** Wear the 9-in-1 Telzall Sun Watch on your wrist. See how perfectly it operates. If you don't agree it's worth many dollars more than the small cost, simply return within 10 days for full refund of purchase price.

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Patent Pending

Amazing Value  
**\$1.98**

## 10-DAY TRIAL COUPON

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**RUSH**

Gentlemen: Rush ☐ 9-in-1 Telzall Sun Watches described above—on your no-risk 10-day money-back guarantee offer. On delivery I will pay postman only \$1.98 each plus C.O.D. postage, with the understanding that if I am not completely satisfied I may return within 10 days for full refund of purchase price.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I enclose \$1.98 for each—send the Telzall 9-in-1 Sun Watch all postage charges prepaid—on money-back guarantee.

**MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE—ORDER TODAY**

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COPY THIS GIRL



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- Please enter my attached drawing in your November drawing contest. (PLEASE PRINT)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

**Amateurs Only!** Our students not eligible. Make copy of girl 5 ins. high. Pencil or pen only. Omit the lettering. All drawings must be received by Nov. 30, 1950. None returned. Winners notified.

**Latest Winner List!** Free course winners in previous contest—from list just released:  
F. Roland, Box 917, Monroe, N. Y.; L. Wise, 204 Watts, Portsmouth, Va.; S. Frey, 19974 Negaunee, Detroit, Mich.; E. Sitarek, 34 Cummings, Irvington, N. J.; B. Abramowski, 3141 33rd, Astoria, L. I., N. Y.

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